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Turtle Season



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Sarah Sanders leaving White House job; governor run ahead?

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — White House press secretary Sarah Sanders, whose tenure was marked by a breakdown in regular press briefings and questions about the administration's credibility, as well as her own, will leave her post at the end of the month, President Donald Trump announced Thursday. Trump said he's encouraging her to run for governor when she returns

home to Arkansas, where her father once held the job.

Sanders is one of Trump's closest and most trusted White House aides and one of the few remaining who worked on his campaign, taking on the job of advocating for and defending a president who had his own unconventional ideas about how to conduct the people's business.

Continued on page 2



In this Jan. 28, 2019, file photo, White House press secretary Sarah Sanders speaks during a press briefing at the White House in Washington.

Associated Press



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Sarah Sanders leaving White House job; governor run ahead?

Continued from Front

At an unrelated White House event, Trump described Sanders as a "warrior" as he called her to the stage. Sanders, appearing emotional, said serving Trump has been "the honor of a lifetime" and pledged to remain one of his "most outspoken and loyal supporters." Sanders, who is married and has three young children, later told reporters she wanted to spend more time with her family, but did not rule out running for

public office.

"I learned a long time ago never to rule anything out," said Sanders, 36. She was the first working mother and just the third woman to be named White House press secretary. Under her roughly two-year tenure as chief spokeswoman for the White House, daily televised briefings led by the press secretary became a relic of the past after Sanders repeatedly sparred with reporters who aggressively questioned her about administration policy, the in-

vestigation into possible coordination between Trump's campaign and Russia or any number of controversies involving the White House.

Sanders has not held a formal briefing in more than three months — since March 11 — and said she does not regret scaling them back. Instead, reporters were left to catch her and other administration officials on the White House driveway after their interviews with Fox News Channel and other networks.

Trump also has made it a habit to regularly answer reporters' questions in a variety of settings, most notably on the South Lawn before boarding the Marine One helicopter. Sanders often sought to justify the lack of formal briefings by saying they were unnecessary when journalists could hear from Trump directly. Behind the scenes, Sanders worked to develop relationships with reporters, earning the respect and trust of many of those on the beat.

Still, her credibility had come under question after she succeeded Sean Spicer, Trump's first press secretary, in mid-2017 in the high-profile role.

The Russia report released by special counsel Robert Mueller in April revealed that Sanders admitted to investigators that she had made an unfounded claim about "countless" FBI agents reaching out to express support for Trump's decision to fire FBI Director James Comey in May 2017. Sanders characterized



President Donald Trump welcomes White House press secretary Sarah Sanders to the stage as he pauses from speaking about second chance hiring to publicly thank the outgoing press secretary in the East Room of the White House, Thursday June 13, 2019, in Washington.

Associated Press

the comment as a "slip of the tongue" uttered in the "heat of the moment."

She faced similar questions last year after Rudy Giuliani, one of Trump's personal attorneys, surprised the White House by saying on national TV that Trump had reimbursed his then-fixer Michael Cohen for the \$130,000 Cohen had paid porn actress Stormy Daniels to keep quiet during the campaign about an alleged past sexual encounter with Trump. Trump has denied Daniels' claim.

The White House had failed to disclose the reimbursement. Sanders said she didn't know anything about the repayment until Giuliani disclosed it.

Sanders told reporters Thursday that she had informed Trump earlier in the day of her decision to step down. Her staff learned the news shortly before Trump tweeted, "After 3 1/2 years, our wonderful Sarah Huckabee Sanders will be leav-

ing the White House at the end of the month and going home to the Great State of Arkansas." Trump added that "she would be fantastic" as Arkansas governor. Sanders said she's had people "begging" her to run for governor for more than a year.

Her father is former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, a two-time GOP presidential candidate. She managed his second White House bid.

Asa Hutchinson, the current Arkansas governor, was re-elected in 2018 and is limited to two terms. The seat will become open in 2022. Sanders said she hasn't discussed possible replacements with Trump. She said she saw no reason to delay informing the president once she had made her decision, saying her departure should give Trump time to put someone else in place before the 2020 presidential campaign heats up. □

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Virginia Beach tries to dispel “rumors” about mass shooting

By BEN FINLEY
Associated Press

NORFOLK, Va. (AP) — Officials in Virginia Beach pushed back on Thursday against what they described as “rumors, innuendo, conflicting theories and speculation” about last month’s mass shooting in a municipal building. But police in this coastal city of nearly half a million people were also no closer to offering a possible motive behind the nation’s deadliest mass shooting in 2019. And the family of one the 12 people who died is demanding an independent investigation.

Following days of relative quiet, the city released a lengthy explanation for where its investigation stands nearly two weeks after civil engineer DeWayne Craddock opened fire in the large city building where he worked.

The statement outlined police efforts, including plans

to interview 240 people, but it also sought to rebut misinformation about a tragedy that remains particularly inscrutable and ripe for conjecture.

City officials said police investigated a report that Craddock, 40, was being “confrontational, argumentative and engaging in fights” before the rampage. But officials said police have “not uncovered evidence corroborating these allegations.”

The city’s statement also addressed what it said were “suggestions” about one of the victims, Kate Nixon, an engineer who worked with Craddock.

Officials said Nixon did not receive Craddock’s resignation email, which he had sent on the day of the attack, and said Nixon “was not a supervisor in the shooter’s chain of command.”

The denial comes more than a week after the city

released Craddock’s two-sentence, emailed resignation letter. The names of the recipients were redacted. So was the time it was sent on May 31.

Craddock’s email gave his two weeks’ notice, citing “personal reasons.” But it offered no clues that he was unhappy at work or had held a grudge against anyone.

Since Craddock’s resignation letter was released, Nixon’s family has spoken about concerns they say Nixon had about Craddock. She “had written him up in the past and thought he had a poor attitude,” Kevin Martingayle, an attorney for the family, wrote in an email to The Associated Press.

“We don’t know if he was facing discipline or termination when he resigned, but the resignation email he sent and reply he got suggest that something was going on,” Martingay-



In this June 2, 2019, file photo, a volunteer prepares to place crosses for victims of a mass shooting at a municipal building in Virginia Beach, Va., at a nearby makeshift memorial.

Associated Press

le wrote. He added: “The shooter’s complete employment records should be released immediately as permitted by law, and a comprehensive independent investigation should be pursued without further delay.” The records that the city has released on Craddock have revealed little.

In response to a records request from The Associated Press, the city said Craddock earned \$83,283.20 a year. But the city withheld nine performance reviews, citing exemptions for personnel information.

Police search warrants have also been sealed. And Craddock’s 2017 divorce filings were about as boilerplate as his resignation letter, citing “irreconcilable” differences. □

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White House counselor Kellyanne Conway, left, and Hawaii Gov. David Ige listen as President Donald Trump speaks during a meeting with governors on "workforce freedom and mobility" in the Cabinet Room of the White House, Thursday, June 13, 2019, in Washington.

Associated Press

Federal agency recommends White House aide Conway be fired

By KEVIN FREKING and DARLENE SUPERVILLE
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A federal watchdog agency recommended Thursday that President Donald Trump fire one of his most ardent defenders, counselor Kellyanne Conway, for repeatedly violating a law that limits political activity by government workers. The U.S. Office of Special Counsel, which is unrelated to special counsel Robert Mueller's office, said in

a letter to Trump that Conway has been a "repeat offender" of the Hatch Act by disparaging Democratic presidential candidates while speaking in her official capacity during television interviews and on social media. Federal law prohibits employees of the executive branch from using their official authority or influence to affect the result of an election. Trump and Vice President Mike Pence are exempt from the Hatch Act, but there are no exceptions for White House employees.

The agency does not have the authority to fire Conway, who was appointed by Trump, so it would be up to the president to follow its recommendation and dismiss one of his most unwavering defenders. The recommendation to fire Conway is the first time the watchdog office has recommended the removal of a White House official over Hatch Act violations. Special Counsel Henry Kerner's letter to Trump states: "Ms. Conway's violations, if left unpunished, send a message to all federal employees that they need not abide by the Hatch Act's restrictions. Her actions erode the principal foundation of our democratic system — the rule of law."

Conway told reporters who encountered her in the White House press office, "I have no reaction."

White House spokesman Steven Groves called the

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New York ends religious exemption to vaccine mandates

By DAVID KLEPPER
Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — New York eliminated the religious exemption to vaccine requirements for schoolchildren Thursday, as the nation's worst measles outbreak in decades prompts states to reconsider giving parents ways to opt out of immunization rules.

The Democrat-led Senate and Assembly voted Thursday to repeal the exemption, which allows parents to cite religious beliefs to forego getting their child the vaccines required for school enrollment.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo, a Democrat, signed the measure minutes after the final vote.

The law takes effect immediately but will give unvaccinated students up to 30 days after they enter a school to show they've had the first dose of each required immunization.

With New York's move, similar exemptions are still allowed in 45 states, though lawmakers in several of them have introduced their own legislation to eliminate the waiver.

The issue is hotly contested and debate around it has often been emotional, pitting cries that religious freedom is being curtailed against warnings that public health is being endangered.

After the vote in the Assembly, many of those watching from the gallery erupted in cries of "shame!" One woman yelled obscenities down to the lawmakers below.

The debate has only intensified with this year's measles outbreak, which federal officials recently said has surpassed 1,000 illnesses, the highest in 27 years.

"I'm not aware of anything

in the Torah, the Bible, the Koran or anything else that suggests you should not get vaccinated," said Bronx Democrat Jeffrey Dinowitz, the bill's Assembly sponsor. "If you choose to not vaccinate your child, therefore potentially endangering other children ... then you're the one choosing not to send your children to school."

Hundreds of parents of unvaccinated children gathered at New York's Capitol for the vote to protest.

Stan Yung, a Long Island attorney and father, said his Russian Orthodox religious views and health concerns about vaccines will prevent him from vaccinating his three young children. His family, he said, may consider leaving the state.

"People came to this country to get away from exactly this kind of stuff," Yung said ahead of Thursday's votes.

Supporters of the bill say religious beliefs about vaccines shouldn't eclipse scientific evidence that they work, noting the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 1905 that states have the right to enforce compulsory vaccination laws.

During the Assembly's floor debate, supporters brought up scourges of the past that were defeated in the U.S. through vaccines.

"I'm old enough to have been around when polio

was a real threat," said Assemblywoman Deborah Glick, D-Manhattan.

"I believe in science.... Your personal opinions, which may be based on junk science, do not trump the greater good."

Supporters also suggest some parents may be claiming the religious exemption for their children even though their opposition is actually based on scientifically discredited claims about the dangers of vaccines.

The bill would not change an existing state exemption given to children who cannot have vaccines for medical reasons, such as a weakened immune system. Cuomo told reporters on Wednesday that he believes public health — and the need to protect those who cannot get vaccinated because for medical reasons — outweighs the concerns about religious freedom.

"I understand freedom of religion," he said. "I have heard the anti-vaxxers' theory, but I believe both are overwhelmed by the public health risk."

The current measles outbreak has renewed concern about the exemptions in many states.

The nation last saw as many cases in 1992, when more than 2,200 were reported. The majority of cases are from outbreaks in New York in Orthodox Jewish com-



In this March 27, 2019 file photo, a woman receives a measles, mumps and rubella vaccine at the Rockland County Health Department in Pomona, N.Y., north of New York City.

Associated Press

munities. California removed personal belief vaccine exemptions for children in both public and private schools in 2015, after a measles outbreak at Disneyland sickened 147 people and spread across the U.S. and into Canada.

Maine ended its religious exemption earlier this year. Mississippi and West Virginia also do not allow religious exemptions.

Once common in the U.S., measles became rare after vaccination campaigns that started in the 1960s.

A decade ago, there were fewer than 100 cases a year. □

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Memphis police after marshals kill black man appeal for calm

By ADRIAN SAINZ

Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Police appealed for calm Thursday in a tense Memphis neighborhood where a rock-throwing crowd gathered after federal marshals fatally shot a black man who, authorities said, had rammed a police vehicle with a stolen car.

Thirty-six officers suffered minor injuries from flying rocks and bricks in the hours following the death of 20-year-old Brandon Webber, who was killed Wednesday evening after he exited the car holding some type of weapon, authorities said.

Webber had been wanted in a June 3 shooting that happened during a car theft about 25 miles (40 kilometers) south of Memphis in Hernando, Mississippi. The victim was shot five times and survived. The car was the one used to ram the police vehicle, according to DeSoto County, Mississippi, District Attorney John Champion, who spoke Thursday at a news conference.



Police retreat under a cloud of tear gas as protesters disperse from the scene of a standoff after Frayser community residents took to the streets in anger against the shooting of a youth by U.S. Marshals earlier in the evening, Wednesday, June 12, 2019, in Memphis, Tenn.

Associated Press

Elected officials condemned the violence, and the police chief pleaded for patience while the shooting is investigated. But unanswered questions left many people angry as they recalled other police shootings around the country.

Shortly after Wednesday's shooting, people began to gather in the area, and their numbers swelled as some livestreamed the scene on social media. Memphis police initially responded in street uniforms, then returned in riot gear as people began hurling rocks

and bricks.

During the unrest, officers cordoned off several blocks in the Frayser neighborhood north of downtown and arrested three people. By 11 p.m., officers had used tear gas and most of the crowd dispersed, Police Director Michael Rallings said.

Rallings implored residents to wait until the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, or TBI, finished its investigation. He appealed for people to refrain from violence and from spreading possible misinformation about the shooting.

"I need everyone to stay calm," Rallings said. He later told WREG-TV that while peaceful protests are allowed, authorities would not tolerate further attacks on officers or any property damage or looting. Among steps designed to maintain public order and protect law enforcement, Rallings said, officers' days off have been canceled and they will ride in two-person cars as a precaution.

Separately, Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee said through a spokeswoman that the shooting would be fully investigated. Lee's press secretary, Laine Arnold, said the crowd's actions were "not representative of the community, but we stand firmly against acts of

lawlessness that threaten the safety of our neighborhoods."

Webber's home was in a working-class neighborhood of north Memphis. By Thursday afternoon, the police presence was minimal, with two squad cars parked in front of a fire station. No uniformed officers were visible. About 20 people stood outside of Webber's one-story house, and others gathered nearby. One woman wept loudly and hugged a man as she cried. The Rev. Andre E. Johnson said he was standing among the protesters when tear gas was released. He said he heard no police order to disperse. People were upset because they initially did not know why the marshals sought to arrest Webber, said Johnson, who called him a beloved member of the community.

"The problem with it is they feel that police and the administration and city officials do not treat them as humans. That's what it really boils down to: You are not worthy of an explanation," said Johnson, speaking hours before the Mississippi prosecutor described the allegations against Webber.

TBI spokeswoman Keli McAlister said a fugitive task force went to a Frayser home to look for a suspect with felony warrants. She said marshals spotted the man getting into a car, which then rammed task force vehicles several times before the man got out with the weapon.

Marshals then opened fire, she said. McAlister did not say how many marshals fired or how many times the man was shot. The TBI identified the dead man as Webber.

Authorities provided no details about the type of weapon or the charges that drew the task force's interest. A criminal history for Webber released by the TBI listed two arrests, in April 2017 and April 2018, on charges including weapons possession, drug dealing and driving without a license. □

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911 upgrade could cost Californians despite budget surplus

By ADAM BEAM
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)

— A \$214.8 billion budget approved Thursday by California lawmakers would upgrade the state's aging 911 system following the most devastating wildfire season in state history and help middle class families pay their monthly health insurance premiums.

To fund those changes, however, lawmakers want to impose a new monthly fee on phone bills and tax people who refuse to buy private health insurance, even though the state has a projected \$21.5 billion surplus, the largest in at least 20 years.

Republican Assemblyman Jay Obernolte, vice chairman of the Assembly Budget Committee, said it's "unconscionable" to ask taxpayers to fund the 911 upgrades when there is such a large surplus.

Democrats, who have super majorities in both houses of the Legislature, counter that they don't want to use the surplus to pay for ongoing expenses, something previous Legislatures were eager to do and led to multi-billion dollar budget deficits when the economy soured.

"There is no other state in this union that funds a 911 upgrade with one-time funds," said state Sen. Mike McGuire, a Democrat representing Healdsburg.

The massive spending plan, totaling more than 900 pages, directs the spending of tax dollars in the country's most populous state.

Lawmakers must still pass more than a dozen other bills to implement the budget. The trailer bills could contain important details, such as how to implement the new 911 fee.

California's 911 system is based on technology from the 1970s. It can handle phone calls and some data but not much else. State officials want to replace it with a system that incorporates text messages, videos and photos.

California now pays for the system with a fee on phone

calls. But the fund has been steadily losing money as more people send text messages instead.

Some lawmakers want to replace the call fee with a flat fee on all phone bills. The plan would authorize the Office of Emergency Services to impose a fee of as much as 80 cents a month, based on the number of phones used in the state.

State officials expect the fee to be about 34 cents a month.

"We tried very much to make sure that this budget capitalizes on the fact that we have a strong reserve and we have resources. But that doesn't mean ... that we spend it all," said Senate President Pro Tempore Toni Atkins, a Democrat from San Diego. "It's a fee connected to a real issue."

The spending plan is the first under Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom, who has 12 days to sign it or veto parts of it.

It would also make California the first state to help people who earn between four and six times the federal poverty level pay their monthly health insurance premiums.

That means families of four who earn as much as \$150,500 a year would be eligible.

Lawmakers plan to pay for part of that by taxing people who refuse to purchase private health insurance. That tax had been law nationwide under former Democratic President Barack Obama's health care law, but Republicans in Congress eliminated the penalty as part of a 2017 overhaul to the federal tax code.

The proposal has angered some Republicans, who note the budget would also make some low-income adults living in the country illegally eligible for taxpayer-funded health insurance. Only adults between 19 and 25 would be eligible.

"The biggest increase in this budget is for people who aren't even citizens," said Assemblyman Devon

Mathis, a Republican who represents Porterville.

Democrats say the two health care proposals are designed to make sure everyone in California has health insurance.

"We want to make sure California is becoming healthier," said Assemblyman Phil Ting, a Democrat from San Francisco and chairman of the Assembly Budget Committee.

The budget proposal also increases spending for public education, housing and programs to combat homelessness. It would bring state reserves to \$19.4 billion, or about half of what the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office says is needed to weather the next recession.

"As our economy has been



In this May 9, 2019, file photo, California Gov. Gavin Newsom gestures towards a chart with proposed funding to deal with the state's homelessness as he discusses his revised state budget during a news conference in Sacramento, Calif.

Associated Press

doing great, we know that at some point soon a recession will be coming and we need to make sure we are saving that money for a rainy day," Ting said. □



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Boris Johnson takes strong lead in race for next UK leader

By JILL LAWLESS

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — The flamboyant, divisive Boris Johnson took a commanding lead Thursday in the contest to become Britain's next prime minister, winning by far the largest share of support in the first round of voting by Conservative Party lawmakers.

Johnson, a former foreign secretary and leading Brexit campaigner, secured 114 of the 313 votes cast by Conservatives in the House of Commons, a ballot that reduced the field of candidates from 10 to seven. His successor as foreign secretary, Jeremy Hunt, trailed with 43 votes, followed by Environment Secretary Michael Gove with 37.

The result exceeded the expectations of Johnson's team and makes him almost certain to be among the final two candidates who will be put to a vote of 160,000 party members nationwide. The winner will become both the new Conservative Party leader and Britain's next prime minister.



Britain's Conservative Party lawmaker Boris Johnson gestures as he speaks during the official launch of his leadership campaign, in London, Wednesday June 12, 2019.

Associated Press

Johnson thanked supporters and tweeted: "I am delighted to win the first ballot, but we have a long way to go."

Three candidates were eliminated. Lawmakers Esther McVey, Mark Harper and Andrea Leadsom all failed to reach the threshold of 17 votes needed to get to the next round.

The contest is dominated by the issue of Britain's stalled departure from the European Union, with all the contenders promising to succeed where departing Prime Minister Theresa May failed and lead the country out of the bloc. May quit as party leader last week after failing to secure Parliament's backing for her Brexit divorce deal. Britain's EU departure

was originally due to take place on March 29, but has been delayed to Oct. 31 because of the political deadlock in London.

Johnson vowed Wednesday that as prime minister he would "get Brexit done," either by renegotiating May's rejected Brexit deal or by leaving the EU on Oct. 31 without an agreement.

"Delay means defeat" for

the Conservatives, he said. EU leaders, however, are adamant that the agreement won't be altered, and economists warn that a no-deal departure would cause major economic disruption for the U.K. and the EU economies.

Johnson made a failed attempt to become prime minister three years ago in a contest won by May.

This time around, his tough line on the EU has won him the support of many Brexiteers in the Conservative Party, who prioritize leaving the bloc above all other issues.

He's also being backed by Conservative moderates on Europe, who calculate that he's the most likely leader to win a future U.K. general election in which the Conservatives will be squeezed by Nigel Farage's newly founded Brexit Party on the right and the opposition Labour Party on the left.

But rivals argue that Johnson's record of misleading or untrue statements, verbal blunders and haphazard performance in high office make him unfit to lead the country. □

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About 20 people injured in thunderstorms in eastern Germany



Lightning strikes over a field near wind turbines in Treplin, Germany, June 12, 2019.

Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — About 20 people have been injured in eastern Germany by gusty winds and thunderstorms while there were reports of lightning hitting a

man in Denmark and causing the death of five horses in Sweden.

German news agency dpa reported Thursday eight people were injured Wednesday night

at an outdoor wedding party when a tree branch crashed onto them in Blankensee in the northeastern state of Mecklenburg-West Pomerania.

In Berlin, 11 people were injured when a tree fell on a group celebrating outside and an unknown number of passengers in a convertible were also injured by a falling tree. Public transportation was stopped in Berlin for two hours during the evening rush hour because of the storm and several commuter trains were still delayed Thursday morning. Swedish newspaper Aftonbladet said lightning likely was to blame for the death of five horses in Vaksala, near Uppsala, about 70 kilometers (45 miles) north of Stockholm, and several fires in the area. □



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Europe's populists rebrand but policies remain the same

By LORNE COOK
Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — Europe's far-right and populist parties sought to rebrand themselves Thursday, launching a new group dubbed Identity and Democracy in the European Parliament but with many of the same faces and most of the old policies.

Claiming to be riding the crest of a popular wave from last month's EU elections, the group welcomed in the far-right Alternative for Germany and renewed pledges to take back sovereignty from Brussels, boost security and stop migrants entering Europe.

"Things must change, because voters demand it," Marine Le Pen, leader of France's National Rally party said at a news conference where several of the group's staff, stood among reporters, applauded the politicians' remarks. "The



French far-right National Rally leader and MEP Marine Le Pen and Belgium's Vlaams Belang member and MEP Gerolf Annemans take a cellphone photo of themselves after attending a media conference to announce the formation of a new far-right European Parliament group at the European Parliament in Brussels, Thursday, June 13, 2019.

time of hidden maneuvers behind the backs of the people is over."

"This attempt to create a European super-state has not brought any added value," said Marco Zanni,

from the Lega party of Italian Deputy Premier Matteo Salvini, who sent his apologies for not being able to attend the launch.

Drawn from nine of the EU's 28 member countries,

Identity and Democracy will hold 73 seats in the new parliament — double its predecessor — but will only control around 10% of the 751-seat assembly. The biggest center-right and -left

parties lost ground in the May 23-26 polls, but allied with mainstream pro-business and pro-environment parties they still hold a comfortable majority.

While insisting that they want change, members of Identity and Democracy — Le Pen in a maroon-colored coat was the only woman among nine dark-suited men — said they don't want to see the end of the European Union. They said their door remains open to other parties, including Nigel Farage's Brexit Party or Hungary's anti-migrant Fidesz party.

"For us, Europe is a geographic concept and a cultural sphere. Protecting Europe from phenomena like massive Third World immigration and its consequences is very pro-European," said Jussi Halla-Aho, leader of the Finns Party, which has also teamed up with the group. □

Albania: Lawmakers rebuke president's 'invalid' stop of vote

By LLAZAR SEMINI
Associated Press

TIRANA, Albania (AP) — Albania's parliament passed a resolution Thursday criticizing President Ilir Meta for attempting to cancel upcoming municipal elections, a move it called unconstitutional, beyond the president's authority and "absolutely invalid."

Lawmakers voted 100-7 in favor of the rebuke in a test of support for the governing Socialist Party, which has a comfortable majority in the 140-seat parliament but not the two-thirds needed for a



Albanian President Ilir Meta speaks during a news conference in capital Tirana, Albania on Monday June 10, 2019.

Associated Press

no-confidence vote to oust the president.

Meta reacted to the vote by saying only the Constitutional Court had the power to judge the legality of his actions. He dismissed the resolution as Socialist Party rhetoric that was "not serving at all to a crisis solution or social peace in the country."

Meta said Saturday he was canceling June 30 local elections because he feared the balloting would be "undemocratic" without participation of Albania's center-right opposi-

tion parties.

The political opposition has led continuous protests since mid-February, accusing the government of links to organized crime and demanding a new general election. The Socialists have denied the allegations.

The Socialist Party did not say whether its representatives would again seek to vote Meta out of office. Lawmakers spent hours Thursday debating a no-confidence motion out forward by party members, but ended up not calling a vote. □

Tankers targeted near Strait of Hormuz amid Iran-US tensions

By JON GAMBRELL

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Two oil tankers near the strategic Strait of Hormuz were damaged in suspected attacks on Thursday, an assault that left one ablaze and adrift as sailors were evacuated from both vessels and the U.S. Navy rushed to assist amid heightened tensions between Washington and Tehran.

The Navy and the ship's owners offered no immediate explanation on what weapon caused the damage to the MT Front Altair and the Kokuka Courageous in the Gulf of Oman off the coast of Iran, though all believed the ships had been targeted in an attack.

It marks the latest mysterious incident to target the region's oil tankers. The U.S. alleged that Iran used limpet mines to attack four oil tankers off the nearby Emirati port of Fujairah last month.

Iran has denied being involved, but it comes as Iranian-backed rebels in Yemen also have launched missile and drone attacks on Saudi Arabia.

Meanwhile in Iran, Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei warned that while Tehran doesn't seek nuclear weapons, "America could not do anything" to stop Iran if it did.



An oil tanker is on fire in the sea of Oman, Thursday, June 13, 2019.

The comments came during a one-on-one meeting capping Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's high-stakes visit in Tehran that sought to ease Iran-U.S. tensions, suggested the efforts had failed.

Benchmark Brent crude spiked at one point by as much 4% in trading following the suspected attack, to over \$62 a barrel, highlighting how crucial the area remains to global energy supplies. A third of all oil traded by sea passes through the strait, which is the narrow mouth of the Persian Gulf.

Cmdr. Joshua Frey, a 5th Fleet spokesman, said the U.S. Navy was assisting the

two vessels that he described as being hit in a "reported attack." He did not say how the ships were attacked or who was suspected of being behind the assault.

Dryad Global, a maritime intelligence firm, preliminarily identified one of the vessels involved as the MT Front Altair, a Marshall Islands-flagged crude oil tanker. The vessel was "on fire and adrift," Dryad added. It did not offer a cause for the incident or mention the second ship.

The firm that operates the Front Altair told The Associated Press that an explosion was the cause of the fire onboard. International

Tanker Management declined to comment further saying they are still investigating what caused the explosion. Its crew of 23 is safe after being evacuated by the nearby Hyundai Dubai vessel, it said.

The second vessel was identified as the Kokuka Courageous.

BSM Ship Management said it sustained hull damage and 21 sailors had been evacuated, with one suffering minor injuries. Iranian state television said 44 sailors from the two tankers have been transferred to an Iranian port in the southern province of Hormozgan.

The timing of Thursday's

Associated Press

suspected attack was especially sensitive as Abe's high-stakes diplomacy mission was underway in Iran. Japan's Trade Ministry said the two vessels had "Japan-related cargo."

On Wednesday, after talks with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, Abe warned that any "accidental conflict" that could be sparked amid the heightened U.S.-Iran tensions must be avoided.

His message came just hours after Yemen's Iranian-backed Houthi rebels attacked a Saudi airport, striking its arrivals hall before dawn and wounding 26 people Wednesday.

A statement published by Khamenei's website after Abe's meeting Thursday with the supreme leader suggested a tense exchange between the two. "We have no doubt about your good will and seriousness, but ... I don't regard Trump as deserving any exchange of messages," Khamenei reportedly told Abe.

Khamenei also said Iran remained opposed to building atomic weapons, but offered a challenge to Trump.

"You should know that if we planned to produce nuclear weapons, America could not do anything," said Khamenei, who has final say on all matters of state in Iran's Shiite theocracy. □

Suicide bomber kills 9 in eastern Afghanistan

By AMIR SHAH

Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — A suicide bomber walked up to an Afghan police vehicle in Jalalabad, the capital of eastern Nangarhar province, and detonated an explosive device that killed three police and six civilians on Thursday, said provincial health department official Shoaib Sahak. He said another 13 people were wounded, some of the seriously.

Attahullah Khogyani, spokesman for the provincial governor, said security forces were the target of the attack. Several of the injured were police,



In this photo released by the Foreign Office, Pakistan's Foreign Ministry official Aftab Khokhar, right, escorts visiting Special Representative for Afghanistan Reconciliation Zalmay Khalilzad, center, for talks at the Foreign Office in Islamabad, Pakistan, Sunday, June 2, 2019.

Associated Press

he said. The Islamic State group, through its Amaq news agency, claimed responsibility for the suicide attack. The group claimed eight people were killed. Both IS and the Taliban operate in Nangarhar province, located on the border with Pakistan and considered an IS stronghold. Afghanistan's security forces come under near-daily attacks by both Taliban and IS-affiliated fighters. Afghan forces have suffered staggering casualties in recent years, even as the Taliban hold peace talks with U.S. Peace Envoy Zalmay Khalilzad. He is currently in the Afghan capital, Kabul, trying to restart stalled peace talks aimed at ending the country's 18-year war and America's longest-running military engagement.

The Taliban have held talks with prominent Afghans, including former President Hamid Karzai and members of opposition political parties, but so far they have refused to hold direct talks with the Afghan government, calling them U.S. puppets.

Late Wednesday, the Afghan government freed 490 Taliban prisoners from jails across the country in a goodwill gesture that doubled as an attempt to further the peace process. □



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Cyclone batters fishing hub but veers away from Indian coast

By AJIT SOLANKI

Associated Press

VERAVAL, India (AP) — A cyclone in the Arabian Sea battered an Indian fishing hub with heavy wind, waves and rain Thursday and was forecast to bring dangerous weather conditions even as it veered away from the subcontinent's western coast. The India Meteorological Department said Cyclone Vayu, named after the Hindi word for wind and the season's second major storm, was moving parallel to the coast of the western state of Gujarat, unlikely to hit it head on as previously forecast but instead turn toward the center of the sea. Pakistan warned of rough seas and dangerous heat, though the cyclone wasn't expected to directly hit the port city of Karachi.

In anticipation of the storm, rescue workers evacuated nearly 300,000 people, taking a cue from Cyclone Fani, which came ashore on India's eastern coast in May, killing 34 people in India and 15 in neighboring Bangladesh.



Indians watch as waves crash with shores on the Arabian Sea coast in Veraval, Gujarat, India, Thursday, June 13, 2019.

An unprecedented evacuation effort that involved relocating about a million people ahead of Fani was credited with saving many lives.

Though not as severe as Fani and unlikely to make landfall, Indian authorities cautioned that Vayu could leave dangerous conditions in its wake. Evacuation

efforts continued Thursday. "We have alerted people from 70 villages and are trying to tell others to evacuate as well. There is a chance that the storm will pick up pace and become stronger now," Gujarat state minister Jawaharbhai Chavda said.

In Veraval, a hub of India's fishing industry, heavy wind

and rain from Vayu battered the beaches. Fishing boats were splintered by huge waves crashing onto shore. Local police were making a last-minute appeal to hut dwellers to leave their homes.

A blanket of steady rain came down in the coastal city of Porbandar, the birthplace of Indian independence leader Mahatma Gandhi. Though 100 kilometers (62 miles) offshore, Vayu was whipping Porbandar with winds up to 60 kilometers (37 miles) per hour. Pilgrims entered a seaside Hindu temple undeterred by waves crashing against the exterior in the coastal city of Dwarka, which Hindus believe is the center of Lord Krishna's kingdom. With the worst averted, rescue workers, including 50 teams from the National Disaster Relief Force and around 1,000 Indian navy and army personnel, were searching for any villagers who remained in coastal areas to urge them to relocate to school buildings and other designated evacuation sites. People were piled into flatbed trucks and buses and driven away from the shore. "We expect the high winds to remain until tomorrow morning and some disturbances to remain until around Saturday or Sunday," said Hemendra Khatma, assistant force commander. □

Philippines protests sinking of boat in disputed waters

By JIM GOMEZ

Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — The Philippines' top diplomat said Thursday he has filed a diplomatic protest after an anchored fishing boat was hit by a suspected Chinese vessel which then abandoned the 22 Filipino fishermen as the boat sank in the disputed South China Sea.

Foreign Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. said he filed the protest Wednesday. He disclosed the move in a tweet in response to a suggestion by opposition Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV that an indepen-



A protester holds a slogan during a rally outside the Chinese Consulate in the financial district of Makati, metropolitan Manila, Philippines to mark Independence Day on Wednesday, June 12, 2019.

Associated Press

dent investigation be conducted by the Internation-

al Maritime Organization, a U.N. agency.

Another opposition senator, Risa Hontiveros, called on President Rodrigo Duterte to recall the Philippine ambassador and consuls in China to pressure Beijing to identify and punish the Chinese crewmen allegedly involved in the incident. China condemned the incident but did not immediately confirm or deny that a Chinese vessel was involved.

The sinking is a delicate development in the long-contested South China Sea, which is seen as a potential flashpoint in Asian relations. Tensions escalated after

China converted seven disputed reefs into islands which can serve as forward military bases and intimidate rival claimant states in the strategic waterway, where U.S. forces undertake "freedom of navigation" patrols.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana disclosed on Wednesday that a boat, identified as F/B Gimver 1, was carrying 22 Filipino fishermen and sank Sunday night after being hit by the suspected Chinese vessel at Reed Bank off the western Philippine province of Palawan. □

Officials: Major powers discuss Venezuelan crisis in Sweden

By ARITZ PARRA
JOSHUA GOODMAN

Associated Press

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) —

Sweden is hosting talks between major powers with stakes in dealing with Venezuela's political turmoil, the latest effort to jumpstart flagging attempts to find a peaceful solution to the country's deepening crisis. A European diplomat said Thursday that representatives of the United Nations, the Vatican, Cuba and the European Union were attending the talks. He also said that Washington and Moscow were joining the Stockholm meeting, though an American official with knowledge of the discussions said the U.S. was not participating.

"The talks in Stockholm are for backing the Norway dialogue," the European diplomat said, referring to talks in Oslo between Venezuela's government and opposition that have stalled in recent days. "All parties feel the need to keep as low key as possible because the mediation is going through a delicate phase."

The Stockholm meeting comes as a growing chorus of international actors press for a mediated solution to end Venezuela's power struggle. Opposition leader Juan Guaidó has chan-



Venezuelans line up at an immigration processing office on the Rumichaca bridge, before crossing the border from Colombia to Ecuador, Thursday, June 13, 2019.

neled the frustrations of angry Venezuelans but has been unable to weaken President Nicolás Maduro's grip on power. Meanwhile, punishing U.S. sanctions and pre-existing shortages of basic goods has made life more difficult for many Venezuelans.

Guaidó in brief comments during a tour of the northwestern state of Mérida told a crowd that Venezuela's crisis was being discussed in Stockholm but offered no details. A Venezuelan government source with knowledge of the talks characterized them as a

waste of time, saying only low-level diplomats were involved.

A spokeswoman for the Russian Foreign Ministry, Maria Zakharova, said Swedish officials were hosting an international meeting to seek solutions to the Venezuela ordeal. She said Russia was being represented by the head of the ministry's South America department.

Enrique Iglesias, a seasoned diplomat recently appointed as the European Union's special envoy for Venezuela, was also participating in the meeting, according to a representative who

spoke on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to discuss the issue. The latest development takes place just a week after Guaidó said no additional talks were immediately being planned in Norway. He reiterated that the opposition's demand for a new presidential election is not negotiable. About 50 nations, including the United States, consider Venezuela's 2018 presidential election illegitimate, in large part because strong opponents of Maduro were not able to run.

Maduro has stood by the

Associated Press

validity of his re-election last year, showing no sign that he intends to go back to campaigning any time soon.

"Nobody who is straight in the head would sit across from a dictator thinking he is negotiating in good faith," Guaidó said last Friday.

But the opposition's options appear to be steadily dwindling. The initial enthusiasm among Venezuelans who poured into the streets by the thousands to support Guaidó has waned. An attempt to spark a military rebellion in late April quickly fizzled.

As the crisis drags on, droves of Venezuelans are continuing to flee and those who stay find their quality of life steadily deteriorating. The United Nations estimates 4 million have migrated in recent years to escape an imploding economy battered by hyperinflation and widespread shortages of food and medicine.

The government began circulating larger denominations bolivar bills Thursday as it tries to keep up with inflation. The central bank said the bills of 10,000, 20,000 and 50,000 bolivars would help make payments and transactions "more efficient." But the biggest new bill is worth just about \$8. □

Mexican journalist rescued hours after abduction by gunmen

By MICHAEL KRUMHOLTZ

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A kidnapped journalist was rescued by security forces in the Gulf coast state of Veracruz hours after he was taken by armed men outside his home, Mexican officials and the journalist said Thursday.

Police said in a statement that they intercepted a suspicious vehicle traveling down a dirt road late Wednesday and a shoot-out ensued between officers and three apparent captors, who escaped on foot. Reporter Marcos Miranda Cogco was discovered tied up in the back of the car.



Authorities cordon off the area where journalist Marcos Miranda was kidnapped, in Boca del Rio, Veracruz state, Mexico, Wednesday, June 12, 2019.

In a Facebook video, Miranda Cogco said he ducked to the floor of the vehicle to avoid flying bullets.

The journalist was kidnaped Wednesday morn-

ing in the port city of Boca del Rio. He said he was taken to a room and stripped naked while his captors took photos of him and repeatedly hit him in the neck and head. He was treated

for minor injuries.

Taking off a neck brace in the video, Miranda Cogco said it was the third time in the last six to eight years that someone had attacked or tried to kidnap him.

His wife said after his abduction Wednesday that he had received threats for years due to his reporting on Noticias A Tiempo, a news page on Facebook that he founded and edits. Miranda Cogco said on the video that he was happy to be alive and would take a few days to rest and be with family before resuming reporting Monday. He vowed not to let the incident intimidate him.

"I am going to continue my criticism against the government," Miranda Cogco said.

Veracruz state Gov. Cuitláhuac García announced the rescue early Thursday via Twitter, applauding the military and state and federal police for their efforts.

The New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists calls Mexico the most dangerous country for reporters in the Western Hemisphere. Forty-nine journalists have been slain in the country since 1992 for motives confirmed as related to their work, while 62 more were killed in circumstances that have not been clarified, the group says. □

LOCAL



Leatherback Sea Turtle Season has started

ORANJESTAD — The Leatherback Sea Turtles nesting on Aruba don't live in the Caribbean, but in the Northern part of the Atlantic Ocean, off the coast of Nova Scotia, Canada. But they are born on Aruba's beaches. After 20 – 30 years they reach maturity and then return to their natal beach in order to nest during the turtle nesting season.

It is very impressive to see a huge sea turtle coming ashore, enjoy the sight, but make sure that the turtle does not see you! Stay out of her sight at a distance of at least 10 meters. All species of sea turtles are endangered and need our protection. Normally sea turtle females will nest at night.

What you can do to protect sea turtles:

- Lights out for sea turtles. Nighttime activities and artificial lighting may deter adult females from nesting. So PLEASE keep all lights off, including flashlights, flash photography and video equipment. "Sea turtles dig the dark"
- Ask your hotel manager to turn off or minimize the lights that are visible on the beach in front of the resort. Close the curtains of your room at night to prevent light shining on the beach.
- Do not drive on beaches. Not all of the turtle nests on all the beaches around Aruba are marked. Vehicles (4x4, quads) can crush the eggs and will compact the sand. Driving on a beach is not good for the condition of the sand (and also for our own condition it is better to walk!)
- Do not litter. Do not leave any plastic cups, straws or bags on the beach. The wind will blow it into the sea. A floating plastic bag is easily mistaken for a jellyfish, the Leatherback Sea Turtle's favorite food.
- Remove obstacles from the beach. Obstacles as beach furniture or recreational equipment may cause nesting females to abort their nesting attempt or may even trap them. So don't leave any beach chairs at night unattended close to the sea, but make a stack as far as possible away from the water.
- Do not disturb a nesting sea turtle. Do not attempt to touch the turtle but stay at a respectful distance (at least 10 meters). Do allow the turtle to complete the full nesting process (about two hours) and don't be in her way when she returns to the sea.
- Do call Turtugaruba (24 hour Turtle Hotline: (297) 5929393).
- If you witness a sea turtle, or if you see turtle crawl marks, during a late evening or early morning stroll on the beach please do call Turtugaruba or notify the front desk of your hotel. Thanks!

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Have a look at Silvia Sperling Canabarro from Porto Alegre, Brasil. She send us a great picture and wrote:

"Aruba to me is.....
Going back to Paradise!"

Aruba para mim é...
Voltar sempre ao paraíso. Contar os dias para regressar e curtir a deslumbrante Rodger's Beach e desbravar as áreas vulcânicas não menos fantásticas. É o lugar que escolhi no mundo para me reenergizar. Aruba, me espere de braços abertos para minha oitava visita.

I am counting the days to return to lovely Rodger's Beach and explore the fantastic volcanic areas. This is the place I choose of the world for me to re-energize. Aruba is waiting for me with arms wide open for my 8th visit.

Travel Tips



- When checking-in, you will always need your valid passport, along with your ticket, e-ticket receipt or e-ticket confirmation. For some countries a Visa is also required.
- For all US-bound departures, check-in three hours before your scheduled departure time.
- For all US-bound flights, after check-in, leave building through the exit on the left side of building; follow the signs and head towards local immigrations, main security screening, shopping area and the departure gates. Aruba Airport provides full US Pre-Clearance service.
- For all Non US departures, check-in may vary between airlines and destinations; always consult your airline for more information. Being at the airport 3 hours before your departure flight is always safe.
- For all Non US flights, after check-in, leave building through the exit on the right side of building; follow the signs and head towards Local immigrations, main security screening, shopping area and the departure gates.
- If traveling with a carry-on, there are restrictions on liquids, gels and aerosols you can carry in your carry-on luggage. Always check with your airline on limitations.
- Always check the weight limit of your baggage; excess weight may result in penalty fees.
- Always label your bags and suitcases with your name, address and phone number.
- Always leave all carry-on items unlocked while passing through screening points to not cause delays if these need to be inspected.
- Avoid wearing big belt buckles, clothing with metal buttons, lots of jewelry etc. when traveling. If you have these on, remove all metal items and place these in a tray for screening. It is advisable to put all metal items in your carry-on luggage until you clear security. This will help speed up the process.
- Remove shoes at checkpoint and place in tray for x-ray machine screening.
- All electronic items should be placed in tray outside their case for x-ray screening.
- Avoid packing foods and beverages in your check-in baggage. When traveling to the US, you have to comply with the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. More information <https://www.usda.gov/>.
- If traveling with medication, please pack these in your carry-on luggage in their original packaging.
- If you medical documentation, present this to the security checkpoint screener to inform them. The documentation is not required and will not exempt you from the screening process.
- Take note of inadmissible items such as sharp objects, sporting goods, guns and firearms, martial arts and self-defense items, tools, explosive materials, flammable items, disabling chemicals and other items when traveling. More information available on www.airportaruba.com.

Send us Your Home Greetings Video

ORANJESTAD – Since a while Aruba Today has a column called Aruba To Me. Readers are invited to send their favorite vacation picture along with a text starting with "Aruba to me is ...". The column grew in popularity making the editorial department happy seeing this interaction with our readers realized.

It is wonderful to share the moments of joy of our readers who are vacationing here, but we can also imagine that there are people home who stayed behind and who are being missed. Aruba Today would like to give the opportunity to you as an appreciated reader to send a live greeting to your beloved ones that stayed behind. It can be your parent, child, sister, brother, neighbor who takes care of the cat, friends ... name it. Now is your chance, send us your Home Greetings Video!

What Do You Do

The only thing you need to do is record a short (maximum 1 minute) video with a greeting to home from Aruba and send it to email news@arubatoday.com. Also please write your name and where you are from as well as how long you will be staying in Aruba. We will post your video on the Facebook page of Aruba Today!

Please do note: By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation. Last but not least: check out our website and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again.□

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The Aruba Tourism Authority honor loyal visitors on the island

Recently, Kimberley Richardson of the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor Aruba's loyal and friendly visitors as Distinguished Visitors.

The Distinguished Visitor certificate is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba 10 years and more consecutively.

The honorees were Paul and Elizabeth Collins who have been coming to Aruba 15 years consecutively.

This lovely couple stated that they love the island very much, especially for its year-round sunny weather, nice sandy beaches, beautiful sunsets, delicious variety of foods, and the Staff of the Marriot Resort and Stellaris Casino.

Ms. Richardson together with the representatives of the Aruba Marriott Resort and Stellaris Casino presented the certificate to the honorees, and also handed over some presents and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination and as their home away from



Get Down for some exciting Soccer



EAGLE BEACH — Today the 2019 Copa America will kick off with host Brazil taking on Bolivia in Sao Paulo. The Double Down Sports Bar & Grill at Eagle Aruba Resort & Casino invites you to enjoy the game in a superb ambiance. For all the games of the championship, this bar is your place to be.

During the games of Colombia they will even have live entertainment: Tambores & Accordion by Vallenato Plus.

The bar is often described as the ultimate sports bar in Aruba. With a capacity of over 250 sports fans, Double Down's fea-



tures more than 34 HDTVs, 8 Giant Screens inside and outside, a massive horseshoe bar, an outstanding Stadium Buffet on this day and a wide selection of beers, wine and cocktails. Right next door to Double Down is Eagle Aruba Casino, and under the same ownership, Eagle Aruba Casino hosts 138 of the latest slot machine and 6 table games.

The 2019 Copa América will be the 46th edition of the quadrennial international men's association football championship. It is organized by South America's football ruling body CONMEBOL and this year it will be held in Brazil. Chile are the two-time defending champions, having won the 2015 and 2016 editions of the tournament. The tournament will run until the final on July 7. Chile will be looking to win the competition for the third time running, while Brazil will be aiming to win it for the first time since 2007. Argentina, meanwhile, have not won it since 1993. Japan and Qatar are the two invited participants taking part.

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Friday, June 14 Brazil vs. Bolivia: local 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, June 15 Venezuela vs. Peru: local 3 p.m.
Argentina vs. Colombia: 6 p.m. FREE SHOTS OF AGUADIENTE FOR EACH GOAL SCORED BY COLOMBIA LIVE MUSIC BY VALLENATO
Sunday, June 16 Paraguay vs. Qatar: 3 p.m.
Uruguay vs. Ecuador: 6 p.m.
Monday, June 17 Japan vs. Chile: 7 p.m.



SPORTS



Rickie Fowler watches his tee shot on the 18th hole during the first round of the U.S. Open Championship golf tournament Thursday, June 13, 2019, in Pebble Beach, Calif.

Associated Press

Fowler and the USGA off to a good start at U.S. Open

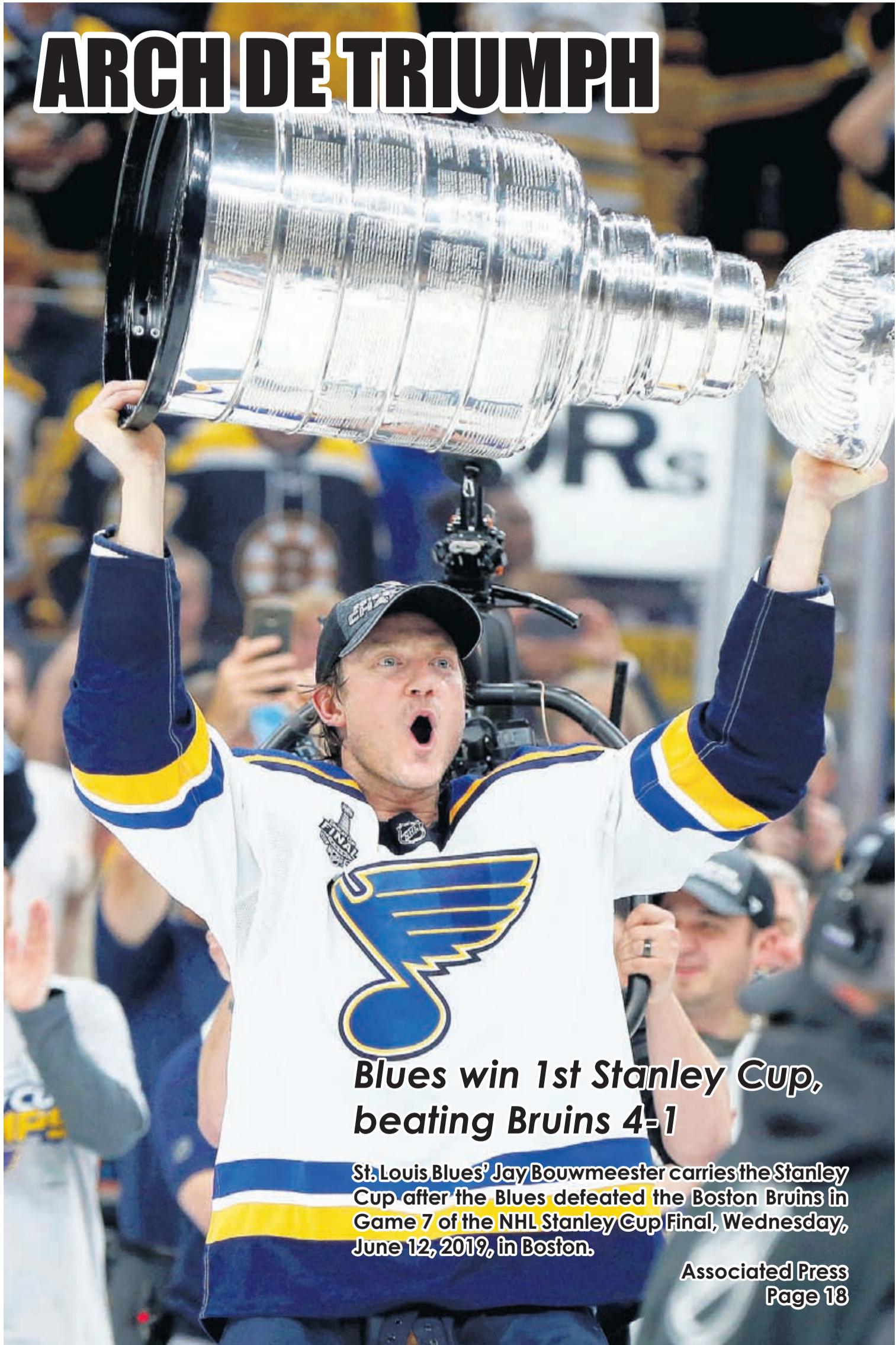
By DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. (AP) — Rickie Fowler had an ideal start Thursday in the U.S. Open, and so did the USGA. Pebble Beach was as gentle as could be in the opening round, and Fowler was among those who took advantage with six birdies for a 5-under 66, giving him a share of the early lead with Xander Schauffele and Louis Oosthuizen. The notorious wind off the Pacific coast was little more than a breeze. The course was lush green and relatively soft. The USGA wanted to start conservatively and make it progressively more difficult, a forecast of dry weather gives officials a lot more control. This was the day to take advantage.

Schauffele, who keeps showing up in golf's biggest events, holed a 12-foot eagle putt on the par-5 18th to join Fowler at 66.

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ARCH DE TRIUMPH



Blues win 1st Stanley Cup, beating Bruins 4-1

St. Louis Blues' Jay Bouwmeester carries the Stanley Cup after the Blues defeated the Boston Bruins in Game 7 of the NHL Stanley Cup Final, Wednesday, June 12, 2019, in Boston.

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Season of comeback? Blues lock down games to win Cup

By STEPHEN WHYNO

AP Hockey Writer

BOSTON (AP) — When Alex Pietrangelo lifted a backhander over Tuukka Rask to give the St. Louis Blues a two-goal lead late in the first period, Boston fans went silent and the eerie quiet lasted throughout intermission.

With good reason. The Blues had only lost one of 25 playoff games when up two goals.

The Bruins found out what San Jose Sharks, Dallas Stars and Winnipeg Jets learned the hard way: Don't let St. Louis take a lead.

Craig Berube's team showed all playoffs it could lock down a hockey game better than anyone else in the NHL. Their style of game translates perfectly to playing with a lead, a recipe that helped them finish off Boston 4-1 Wednesday night in Game 7 to lift the Stanley Cup.

"We did a real good job in the middle of the ice tonight, especially in our own end — good sticks, clogging it up, blocking shots," Berube said. "I thought our guys, they did a real good job in the middle of the ice, clogging it up, not giving them anything free there." After the regular season saw an NHL-record 138 multi-goal comebacks, the Blues blew a two-goal lead in Game 1 of the final and then completely suffocated the Bruins when ahead



St. Louis Blues head coach Craig Berube carries the Stanley Cup after the Blues defeated the Boston Bruins in Game 7 of the NHL Stanley Cup Final, Wednesday, June 12, 2019, in Boston.

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the rest of the series.

That can be traced back to Berube's changes when he took over as interim coach for Mike Yeo in November. He instituted a north-south brand of hockey that better suited the roster general manager Doug Armstrong put together. Asked after Game 7 on the ice what Berube's hiring meant to St. Louis, Armstrong didn't hesitate.

"Everything," he said simply. "He came in, one of the things he did right away was he took down the standings. ... He said, 'Let's just go to work every day.'" "He doesn't get too high, too low ... I learned a lot

working with him and I look forward to working with him for a long time to come," added Armstrong, who then laughed when Berube's interim title was mentioned. "We're going to work that out."

St. Louis showed it could put a stranglehold on opponents when playing with a lead. They finished the playoffs 13-4 when scoring first, 8-2 when leading after one period and 10-1 when leading after two.

Even Bruins coach Bruce Cassidy conceded that the Blues "play a different game" when they're ahead. Much of that is the structure that helped St.

Louis go from last in the NHL on the morning of Jan. 3 to the playoffs.

"We've been doing that since January, and it's been working almost every single game," hard-checking forward Oskar Sundqvist said. "We were playing really tight and we were staying connected throughout the whole ice. We were helping each other in a great way. I don't know. We just stuck with it and kept doing what we needed to do."

Because of how well the Blues defend and even move the puck differently when they're ahead in a game, it gets increasingly difficult over the course

of a game for an opponent to come back on the Blues. They also went 4-1 in chances to eliminate a team — and after losing Game 6 on home ice were clinical in holding on to a multi-goal lead in Game 7.

"Goals are scored, no lead is safe," said rookie goaltender Jordan Binnington, a big part of making sure Blues' leads were safe.

Binnington came out of nowhere to lead St. Louis to the Stanley Cup. He didn't have the best numbers in the playoffs, or at least not close to his otherworldly regular season, but he was the biggest reason St. Louis won Game 5 to move to the verge of winning it all and made stopped 32 of the 33 shots he faced in Game 7.

The 25-year-old made 12 first-period saves Wednesday to stunt a Bruins onslaught, then everything about the course of the game changed with Pietrangelo's stunning goal with 7.9 seconds on the clock. The Blues could then be at their best. Checking and defending got the Blues here. They showed resiliency in the face of adversity, like a missed hand pass in overtime of Game 3 against San Jose last round, and more than anything they prided themselves on playing like Berube did during his career — tough and giving opponents as little room as possible. □

Perry, Shin tied for lead in rain-delayed Meijer LPGA

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (AP)

— Katherine Perry and Jenny Shin shared the lead at 6-under 66 when first-round play in the rain-delayed Meijer LPGA Classic was suspended because of darkness Thursday night.

Playing in the second group of the day off the first tee, Perry had eight birdies and two bogeys at Blythefield Country Club in the round that started seven hours late because of heavy rain.

"It was a weird day," Perry said. "There was a lot going on from the beginning, just waking up at 5, hanging out, going back and



Minjee Lee, of Australia, tees off on the first hole during the first round of the Meijer LPGA Classic golf tournament at Blythefield Country Club on Thursday, June 13, 2019, in Belmont, Mich.

Associated Press

napping, but it turned out to be beautiful out here. My swing was on, putting stroke was on from the start, so it was a great day."

Making only her fourth LPGA Tour start of the season, the former North Carolina player birdied three of the first four holes.

"I think that was hugely important, just hitting it close on the first hole and then making that putt," Perry said. "I made a 30-footer or so on the next hole. Just really gave me confidence with my putting."

Shin finished on the front nine, making three straight birdies on Nos. 6-8. The South Korean player won the 2016 Volunteers of America Texas Shootout for her lone LPGA Tour title.

"I had a few close shots, within 3 feet, and then made a few putts," Shin said. "The par 5s are reachable here so I took advan-

tage of that. Made a few birdies coming in."

Mariajo Uribe of Colombia had a hole-in-one on the 15th — her sixth hole — in a 67. She birdied the final two holes. Brooke Henderson, the Canadian star who won the 2017 event, also aced the 15th shortly before play was suspended. She was 4 under through six holes. Playing partners Lexi Thompson and So Yeon Ryu were even par. Thompson, the 2015 winner, is coming off a victory last week in New Jersey in the ShopRite LPGA Classic. Ryu is the defending champion. □

U.S. Open

Continued from Page 17

Oosthuizen holed out for eagle from 95 yards at No. 11, his second hole of the day.

"It's a very soft start to a U.S. Open, which is a good thing," Rory McIlroy said after a 68, his first sub-70 round at the U.S. Open since he won at Congressional in 2011. "They can do whatever they want with from here. It's not as if you're starting with a course that's in the condition like a Sunday, and then you get three days and it sort of starts to get away from you."

Two-time defending champion Brooks Koepka and Tiger Woods played in the afternoon. Koepka reached 4 under through seven holes until a bogey on No. 8, while Woods had three birdies to atone for a double bogey on par-3 fifth. He was 1 under through seven. Scott Piercy made bogey on the 18th for a 67. He was the first player to get everyone's attention when he made three birdies and an eagle through the opening six holes — the scoring holes at Pebble — and was 5 under. Graeme McDowell saw the score when he walked off the 10th green at the start of his round and quipped to his caddie, "All the USGA radios are going off and they're saying, 'Turn off the water — NOW!'"

McDowell won the last U.S. Open at Pebble Beach in 2010 when it was so difficult he made only one birdie in the final round and no one broke par for the week. Even as he saw low scores on the board — he had a bogey-free 69, one of 16 rounds in the 60s among the early starters — McDowell feared what was to come. What really got his attention was Phil Mickelson being some 30 feet above the hole at No. 1, which should ordinarily have been a lightning fast putt. Mickelson left it short. "I don't think level par wins this week," he said. "Careful what you wish for, because I think we're going to see it come the weekend." Mickelson, in his fifth at-

tempt at the career Grand Slam, opened with a 72 that certainly didn't hurt him, but only two birdies held him back. Two of his bogeys came from missing the fairway with an iron off the tee. The other was a careless three-putt — he missed from 22 inches. Dustin Johnson was only one shot better, and he could have been a lot worse except for a magnificent short game, no shot better than his flop shot from well behind the eighth green to 2 feet. He nearly drove the green on No. 4, a dangerous shot because the coast line hugs the right side. Why driver?

"Because I'd bogeyed the last two holes," Johnson said with a wry smile. "I needed a birdie."

That wasn't impatience that often dooms chances at a U.S. Open. That was recognition that scores were to be had, and this might be the best day. Fowler picked up three birdies in seven holes, dropped a shot at the turn and added three birdies on the back. It's the second time in three years at the U.S. Open he has started well — he had a 65 in the first round at Erin Hills — but the focus is on how he finishes.

Even though he's 30, with seven victories on the PGA Tour and European Tour combined, Fowler is on that list of best without a major, perhaps because he's had so many top finishes. So the start was important.

"It was very stress free," Fowler said. "You never feel in cruise control at a major, especially a U.S. Open, but the execution was very good today. ... It was the worst I could have shot, so that's a good thing. I'm happy with the start. You can't go out and win it up the first day, but you can obviously take yourself out of it and you're having to fight back."

Schauffele also appears poised to break through in his third full year on tour. He first gained attention with his tie for fifth in his U.S. Open debut two years ago, and he tied for sixth



Aaron Wise hits from the rough on the sixth hole during the first round of the U.S. Open Championship golf tournament Thursday, June 13, 2019, in Pebble Beach, Calif.

Associated Press

last year at Shinnecock Hills. He also has runner-up finishes in the British Open and the Masters.

His big break came at the

end when he caught his drive off the toe and it hit off a rock framing the left side, bounding down the fairway. From there, he

only had 8-iron to set up his eagle.

"Very fortunate, and happy we capitalized on a really lucky break," he said. □



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Chicago Cubs' Cole Hamels follows the flight of his single to drive in two runs off Colorado Rockies relief pitcher Jake McGee in the fifth inning of a baseball game Wednesday, June 12, 2019, in Denver.

By The Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — Cole Hamels struck out nine in seven scoreless innings, singled twice and drove in two runs to lead the Chicago Cubs past the Colorado Rockies 10-1 in a testy game on Wednesday. Rockies All-Star third-base-

Associated Press

man Nolan Arenado left in the fifth inning with a left forearm contusion after Hamels (6-2) hit him with a pitch in the third, and three more batters — including Hamels — were hit by pitches later in the game. Chicago's Kris Bryant was hit by pitches three times in

Hamels throws 7 scoreless, 4 batters hit as Cubs top Rockies

the first two games of the series. Javier Báez and Kyle Schwarber homered for Chicago, which snapped a five-game road losing streak. Colorado's 10-game home winning streak ended.

Chicago scored five times in the second off Antonio Sentenzo (5-5).

BRAVES 8, PIRATES 7, 11 INNINGS

ATLANTA (AP) — Austin Riley tied the game with a solo homer in the ninth inning and scored the winning run on Ozzie Albies' double in the 11th, leading Atlanta past Pittsburgh for its sixth straight victory.

The Braves (39-29) took over sole possession of first place in the NL East and

moved 10 games over .500 for the first time this season. Josh Bell hit a tiebreaking solo homer off Atlanta closer Luke Jackson in the top of the ninth. Riley, who had a two-run triple in the first, took Kyle Crick deep to make it 7-all in the bottom half. After Riley was hit by pitch in the 11th, Albies drove a gopher into right-center and Riley scored from first base, sliding headfirst across the plate to end it. Jacob Webb (4-0) pitched two innings to earn the win. Michael Feliz (2-3) took the loss.

Rain delayed the game for 55 minutes in the seventh.

MARLINS 9, CARDINALS 0

MIAMI (AP) — Jordan Yamamoto pitched sev-

en innings to win his major league debut, Garrett Cooper hit a grand slam and Miami blanked St. Louis to end a six-game skid. Yamamoto, acquired last year in the Christian Yelich trade, allowed three hits and two walks and threw 95 pitches. The rookie also earned an RBI with a squeeze bunt.

Two relievers completed a three-hitter.

Cooper finished a double shy of the cycle, and pulled a two-out inside fastball that was off the plate for a grand slam in the second inning against Miles Mikolas (4-7).

DIAMONDBACKS 2, PHILLIES 0

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Merrill Kelly tossed three-hit ball over 7 2/3 innings, and Arizona beat Philadelphia. Kelly (7-6) struck out five before departing when Bryce Harper entered the game as a pinch-hitter. Andrew Chafin retired Harper on two pitches and Greg Holland finished the three-hitter, earning his 10th save in 11 tries.

The Diamondbacks won another series in Philadelphia and have won 11 of their last 13 road games against the Phillies.

Philadelphia's Zach Eflin (6-6) allowed two runs and five hits in eight innings, tying a career high with nine strikeouts.

GIANTS 4, PADRES 2

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Evan Longoria drove in the go-ahead run with an infield single in the fifth inning after San Diego made two errors, and San Francisco held on to complete a two-game sweep.

Kevin Pillar homered for the first time in more than a month and Donovan Solano had two hits and two RBIs for the Giants. Buster Posey went 1 for 4 after coming off the injured list earlier in the day.

The Padres loaded the bases with two outs in the ninth against Will Smith before the closer got Manuel Margot to pop out. Smith has 16 consecutive saves to start the season. □

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Moustakas hits 2-run HR in 14th as Brewers beat Astros 6-3

By The Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — Justin Verlander set a career high with 15 strikeouts, but Mike Moustakas hit a two-run homer during Milwaukee's three-run 14th inning and the Brewers rallied to beat Houston.

Christian Yelich started the 14th with a single against rookie Cionel Perez (1-1) for Milwaukee's first hit since the ninth. After Ryan Braun lined out, Moustakas hit his 21st homer.

Jesús Aguilar added a pinch-hit RBI single as Milwaukee won for the fifth time in six games despite striking out a season-high 24 times. Braun, Yasmani Grandal and Eric Thames also went deep for the Brewers, and Adrian Houser (2-1) pitched two scoreless innings for the win.

Verlander allowed three runs in seven innings. The 2011 AL Cy Young Award winner led the way as Houston set a franchise record for strikeouts, surpassing its previous record of 23 during a 15-inning game in 2003 against the Cubs.

RED SOX 4, RANGERS 3

BOSTON (AP) — Mookie Betts drew a bases-loaded walk in the ninth inning, giving Boston the win over Texas.

Andrew Benintendi hit a triple and two doubles, driving in two runs for the Red Sox as they ended a three-game skid and avoided falling below .500 for the first time in more than a month.

Boston rallied against reliever Jesse Chavez (2-1) in the ninth after allowing the Rangers to tie it in the eighth on an unearned run. Matt Barnes (3-1) pitched a scoreless ninth.

ATHLETICS 6, RAYS 2

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Ramon Laureano hit his first career grand slam to break an eighth-inning tie and finished with five RBIs as Oakland beat Tampa Bay.

Oakland went 6-4, including taking two of three from the Rays, on a season-long 10-game trip that included some significant travel issues.

Matt Olson started the decisive eighth with a single



Milwaukee Brewers' Mike Moustakas, left, celebrates his two-run home run off Houston Astros relief pitcher Cionel Perez with third base coach Ed Sedar during the 14th inning of a baseball game Wednesday, June 12, 2019, in Houston.

Associated Press

off Adam Kolarek (2-2). Laureano made it 6-2 by sending a 2-2 pitch from Colin Poche into the left-field stands.

Liam Hendriks (3-0) allowed the Rays to tie it in the seventh by allowing two inherited runners to score, but got the win.

REDS 7, INDIANS 2

CLEVELAND (AP) — Rookie Nick Senzel and Joey Votto hit back-to-back home runs to open the game and Cincinnati later got deep shots from Eugenio Suárez and Curt Casali, powering the Reds past Cleveland. The quick homers by Senzel and Votto off rookie Zach Plesac (1-2) marked the first time an opposing team hit consecutive homers to start a game in Cleveland in 118 years.

The Reds earned a split of the two-game series between Ohio's teams and snapped an eight-game losing streak in interleague

play.

Anthony DeSclafani (3-3) made the early support stand, allowing one run and four hits in 5 2/3 innings. Senzel and second baseman José Peraza had a frightening collision in short center field in the first. Both avoided serious injury and stayed in the game.

BLUE JAYS 8, ORIOLES 6

BALTIMORE (AP) — Rowdy Tellez hit a grand slam to cap a six-run fifth inning, Vladimir Guerrero Jr. had three hits and Toronto beat Baltimore to end a five-game losing streak.

Lourdes Gurriel Jr. had two RBIs for the Blue Jays, who matched their run total from the previous five games combined.

Pitching in his 400th career game, Edwin Jackson (1-4) allowed two runs in five innings of relief for Toronto.

Baltimore starter David Hess (1-9) gave up four runs and five hits in four-plus innings.

MARINERS 9, TWINS 6, 10 INNINGS

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Dee Gordon scored for Seattle on one of Minnesota's three errors in the 10th inning.

Gordon opened the 10th with a ground-rule double off Tyler Duffey (1-1). Shed Long walked before the runners advanced on Dylan Moore's sacrifice.

Mallex Smith followed with a grounder to first baseman C.J. Cron, who tried to get the speedy Gordon at the plate. Twins catcher Mitch Garver was given the error when he was unable to handle the throw.

One out later, Long and Smith scored when third baseman Miguel Sanó flubbed Edwin Encarnación's grounder. The AL Central-leading Twins finished with five errors in the game.

The Mariners carried a 6-4 lead into the ninth, but By-

ron Buxton tied it with a two-run homer off Anthony Bass (1-1). Roenis Elías worked a perfect 10th for his sixth save. Long hit a three-run drive in the eighth for his first career homer.

TIGERS 3, ROYALS 2

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Brandon Dixon broke an eighth-inning tie with a sacrifice fly that lifted Detroit over Kansas City.

Miguel Cabrera also had a sacrifice fly for the Tigers, and Ronny Rodriguez hit an RBI double.

Jorge Soler drove in both Royals runs but flied out with a runner on to end the game.

The teams now head to Omaha, Nebraska, to play the first Major League Baseball game in that state Thursday night. It's a prelude to the College World Series, which begins Saturday in the same ballpark — also home of Kansas City's Triple-A affiliate. □

Walker says he'd take less than \$221M to stay with Hornets

By STEVE REED
AP Sports Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) —

Three-time NBA All-Star Kemba Walker said he would consider taking less money than he is eligible to make to stay with the Charlotte Hornets if that means helping them build a winning team.

Because Walker was named to an All-NBA team this season, the Hornets can offer him a five-year "supermax" contract worth up to \$221 million — significantly more than the five-year, \$190 million deal had he not been named All-NBA. Other NBA teams can only offer a four-year deal worth \$140 million when free agency begins June 30.

"Yeah, why not? I would take less, for sure," Walker said Thursday during his youth basketball camp at Ardrey Kell High School in Charlotte.

The eight-year NBA veteran said the Hornets remain his first priority, but he said he's "pretty sure" he will meet with other interested teams before making a decision on his future.

The 29-year-old Walker said he's eager to hear what other teams have to offer. "That all factors in (to my decision) when I sit down with the teams and hear what guys have to say," Walker said. "I think that will all come into play. I'm not really sure right now. Like I said Charlotte is my first priority and I have to see what



In this March 26, 2019, file photo, Charlotte Hornets' Kemba Walker laughs at a play from the bench during the first half of an NBA basketball game against the San Antonio Spurs in Charlotte, N.C.

(the Hornets) have to offer, as well as other teams."

Hornets general manager Mitch Kupchak previously said the team will do "everything we can" to re-sign Walker, the franchise's all-time leading scorer.

There has been plenty of speculation about where Walker might end up, including with the New York

Knicks because he grew up in the Bronx.

But Walker has repeatedly said he loves playing and living in Charlotte.

"I have been here for eight years, and it's the team that drafted me," Walker said. "So yeah it is my first priority. I don't know if I will sign back with them, but they are my first priority."

Associated Press

Walker said he doesn't have a timetable for signing a contract but added he wouldn't mind getting it done as soon as possible.

Asked if he was confident he'd re-sign with Charlotte, Walker shrugged his shoulders and said, "I have no clue."

"I don't know," Walker added. "This is where I want

to be and if it doesn't work out, it just doesn't. I'm prepared."

Walker has been selected for the last three All-Star games and was named a starter this year for the first time. He averaged a career-high 25.6 points and 4.4 rebounds per game last season along with 5.9 assists while playing in all 82 games.

Walker has averaged more than 20 points per game in four straight seasons and is averaging 19.8 points per game for his career since joining the league in 2011 out of UConn, where he won a national championship with the Huskies.

The Hornets have made the playoffs only twice during Walker's career and have never made it out of the first round — a major disappointment for the highly competitive Walker. So the prospect of playing for a team that is closing to competing for a NBA championship could lure Walker away from Charlotte.

Walker said right now he is just trying to enjoy the experience, regardless of how stressful it might be.

"It's my first time being a free agent and having the opportunity to be in the driver's seat and have the opportunity to make a decision and play for different teams, and that is exciting in itself," Walker said. "And when teams have interest in you I think that is pretty cool." □

Zion sues marketing company, alleging state law violation

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) —

Former Duke star Zion Williamson is suing to terminate his contract with a sports marketing company, saying the agency violated the state's sports agent law.

A lawsuit filed Thursday in U.S. District Court in Greensboro says the star player should be allowed to void his contract with Florida-based Prime Sports Marketing LLC.

Williamson announced April 15 he was leaving Duke after one season to enter the NBA draft.

According to the lawsuit, the five-year contract he signed five days later with Prime Sports did not contain notice that he would lose his college eligibility upon signing, and did not contain a disclaimer allowing him 14 days to cancel. Both are required under the North Carolina Uniform Athlete Agents Act.

According to the lawsuit, Prime Sports Marketing President Gina Ford met with Williamson in North Carolina, but neither she nor her company is registered as athlete agents in

the state.

Creative Artists Agency announced May 30 that it had signed Williamson, the Associated Press college player of the year this season.

The lawsuit includes a copy of a letter Williamson sent the next day to Ford to terminate the contract and a June 2 letter sent to Ford by Williamson's attorney, Jeffrey S. Klein, arguing the contract was void.

Attorney Joann Squillace, who represents Ford, responded that the "foreseeable injuries, losses, dam-

ages and harm caused" would likely exceed \$100 million.

Klein said in a statement that Prime Sports "blatantly violated the North Carolina statute specifically designed to protect student athletes" and that the agency's "continued threats against Mr. Williamson made necessary the filing of this lawsuit."

When asked for comment, Ford provided The Associated Press with a statement attributed to Prime Sports that said CAA "was aware of the valid con-

tract" between Williamson and Prime Sports, claimed Williamson "intentionally breached" his contract with Prime Sports and called the "collective actions of CAA and Zion Williamson ... willful, intentional and unlawful."

The lawsuit asks the court to declare the contract void and prevent Prime Sports from acting on behalf of Williamson.

It was filed a week before the draft, and Williamson is expected to be the No. 1 overall selection by the New Orleans Pelicans. □



Maximum Security, ridden by exercise rider Edelberto Rivas, gallops during a workout at Monmouth Park, Thursday morning, June 13, 2019, in Oceanport, N.J.

Associated Press

Maximum Security to race for 1st time since Kentucky Derby

OCEANPORT, N.J. (AP) — Maximum Security is heading back to the races. The colt, who two months ago crossed the finish line first in the Kentucky Derby only to be disqualified, was among six 3-year-olds entered Thursday for the \$150,000 Pegasus Stakes at Monmouth Park on Sunday.

"The horse had a really good day today and I don't see a reason why we shouldn't run," trainer Jason Servis said of the 1 1/16-mile race.

Maximum Security drew the No. 2 post position and was made the overwhelming 1-2 favorite. Luis Saez is back in the saddle.

Trainer Todd Pletcher entered two colts who will flank Maximum Security.

Second choice King for a Day, the winner of the Sir Barton, will start from the

No. 3 post position, with Joe Bravo listed to ride. Last Judgement has the inside post position and is listed at 6-1 in the morning line. No rider was announced. Also entered in post-position order are Identifier, Paco Lopez, 6-1; Direct Order, Nik Juarez, 12-1; and Caladan, Jeremy Rose, 15-1.

Servis was not sure earlier this week whether to run Maximum Security. However, bloodwork showed no problems.

"Maybe I was over-reading things a little too much, trying to be overly cautious," said Servis, who had the colt gallop 1 1/8 miles on Wednesday. "He's acting really good and training good and his bloodwork came back good."

Owned by Gary and Mary West, Maximum Security has finished first in all five of his lifetime starts. He finished 1 1/4 lengths in front of Country House in the Kentucky Derby on May 4 but was disqualified by Churchill Downs stewards for interference. He was placed 17th.

It marked the first time in the 145-year history of the Derby that the first-place finisher was disqualified for interference.

The Wests are challenging the decision in federal court. □



In this Sept. 9, 2018 photo, customers watch sports on a giant screen at the sports book of the Ocean Resort Casino in Atlantic City, N.J.

Associated Press

Panel: 90% of U.S. sport bets could be online in 5 to 10 years

By WAYNE PARRY
Associated Press

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP)

— Some gambling and technology executives say 90% of sports betting in the United States will be done over mobile phones or the internet in the next five to 10 years.

Speaking this week at the East Coast Gaming Congress in Atlantic City, the leaders say rapid advances in technology are pushing sports betting further online.

Since winning a U.S. Supreme Court case last year clearing the way for all states to offer legal sports betting, New Jersey has taken in nearly \$3 billion in sports bets.

Around 80% of those have been placed online. That percentage is set to increase in about five years, several executives said in a panel.

Moti Malul, CEO of Neo-Games, a global provider of internet gambling and lottery technology, predicted "90-plus percent" of all U.S. sports betting will be done via mobile devices within the next 10 years.

"Innovation will drive through that," he said. "And who knows what mobile will look like 10 years from now?"

Parikshat Khanna, CEO of CG Technology, a licensed Nevada bookmaker, echoed that prediction. "The true capability of sports wagering is mobile," he said. When CG launched its betting apps in 2009, "It was always assumed you wanted to sit in a sports book for three or four hours to watch the game," Khanna said. But within two years, 60% of the company's bets were being taken via mobile apps.

Itai Pazner, CEO of 888 Holdings, has lesser expectations of mobile sports betting, but still predicts at least half of it will be done online within the next five years. "Society's movement to mobile in just about every area cannot be denied," said David Reback, director of the New Jersey Division of Gaming Enforcement. "To ignore it will just cause problems in the future; Your customers want it, and they'll access it on the black market for sure."

Dan Shapiro, vice president of strategy and business development for bookmaker William Hill US, said the market has already decided it wants to be online. "That's the way the world is moving," Shapiro said. Despite the rosy predic-

tions, getting mobile sports betting approved in the real world is proving tricky in many states. The question of whether to allow online wagers has held up New York state's legalization efforts for months.

And Illinois froze out online fantasy sports providers-turned-bookmakers FanDuel and DraftKings from the online sports betting market for 18 months to give land-based casinos a head start.

David Cordish, whose company owns casino projects in Maryland and Pennsylvania, cautioned against pushing too much of the sports betting industry online.

"You're fighting for that customer up there in the ether," he said. "It costs a lot to market to that customer, and you're not the only one. What we should be doing is building real facilities that attract the guest. It's a fun event."

There are numerous costs involved with establishing an online gambling presence, including customer identification, geolocation, money transfer, licensing and technology, according to Melanie Gross, vice president of online casino and sports for Caesars Entertainment. □

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Experts: Spy used AI-generated face to connect with targets

By RAPHAEL SATTER
AP Cybersecurity Writer

LONDON (AP)—Katie Jones sure seemed plugged into Washington's political scene. The 30-something redhead boasted a job at a top think tank and a who's-who network of pundits and experts, from the centrist Brookings Institution to the right-wing Heritage Foundation. She was connected to a deputy assistant secretary of state, a senior aide to a senator and the economist Paul Winfree, who is being considered for a seat on the Federal Reserve.

But Katie Jones doesn't exist. The Associated Press has determined. Instead, the persona was part of a vast army of phantom profiles lurking on the professional networking site LinkedIn. And several experts contacted by the AP said Jones' profile picture appeared to have been created by a computer program.

"I'm convinced that it's a fake face," said Mario Klingemann, a German artist who has been experimenting for years with artificially generated portraits and says he has reviewed tens of thousands of such images. "It has all the hallmarks."

Experts who reviewed the Jones profile's LinkedIn activity say it's typical of espionage efforts on the professional networking site, whose role as a global Rolodex has made it a powerful magnet for spies. "It smells a lot like some sort of state-run operation," said Jonas Parell-Plesner, who serves as program director at the Denmark-based think tank Alliance of Democracies Foundation and was the target several years ago of an espionage operation that began over LinkedIn.

William Evanina, director of the U.S. National Counterintelligence and Security Center, said foreign spies routinely use fake social media profiles to home in on American targets—and accused China in particular of waging "mass scale" spying on LinkedIn. "Instead

of dispatching spies to some parking garage in the U.S. to recruit a target, it's more efficient to sit be-

yanking thousands of them in the first three months of 2019. It also said "we recommend you connect with

Lionel Fatton, who teaches East Asian affairs at Webster University in Geneva, said the fact that he didn't

"I ought to have heard of her."

CSIS spokesman Andrew Schwartz told the AP that "no one named Katie Jones works for us."

Jones also claimed to have earned degrees in Russian studies from the University of Michigan, but the school said it was "unable to find anyone by this name earning these degrees from the university."

The Jones account vanished from LinkedIn shortly after the AP contacted the network seeking comment. Messages sent to Jones herself, via LinkedIn and an associated AOL email account, went unreturned.

Numerous experts interviewed by AP said perhaps the most intriguing aspect of the Katie Jones persona was her face, which they say appears to be artificially created.

Klingemann and other experts said the photo — a closely cropped portrait of a woman with blue-green eyes, copper-colored hair and an enigmatic smile — appeared to have been created using a family of dueling computer programs called generative adversarial networks, or GANs, that can create realistic-looking faces of entirely imaginary people. GANs, sometimes described as a form of artificial intelligence, have been the cause of increasing concern for policymakers already struggling to get a handle on digital disinformation. On Thursday, U.S. lawmakers held their first hearing devoted primarily to the threat of artificially generated imagery.

Hao Li, who directs the Vision of Graphics Lab at the University of Southern California's Institute for Creative Technologies, reeled off a list of digital tells that he believes show the Jones photo was created by a computer program, including inconsistencies around Jones' eyes, the ethereal glow around her hair and smudge marks on her left cheek.

"This is a typical GAN," he said. "I'll bet money on it." □



Connect

...

Katie Jones

Russia and Eurasia Fellow

Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) ·

University of Michigan College of Literature, Science...

Washington · 49 connections

This image captured on Tuesday, June 11, 2019 shows part of a LinkedIn profile for someone who identified themselves as Katie Jones.

Associated Press

hind a computer in Shanghai and send out friend requests to 30,000 targets," he said in a written statement.

Last month, retired CIA officer Kevin Mallory was sentenced to 20 years in prison for passing details of top secret operations to Beijing, a relationship that began when a Chinese agent posing as a recruiter contacted him on LinkedIn. Unlike Facebook's friends-and-family focus, LinkedIn is oriented toward job seekers and headhunters, people who routinely fire out resumes, build vast webs of contacts and pitch projects to strangers. That connect-them-all approach helps fill the millions of job openings advertised on the site, but it also provides a rich hunting ground for spies. And that has Western intelligence agencies worried.

British, French and German officials have all issued warnings over the past few years detailing how thousands of people had been contacted by foreign spies over LinkedIn.

In a statement, LinkedIn said it routinely took action against fake accounts,

people you know and trust, not just anyone."

The Katie Jones profile was modest in scale, with 52 connections. But those connections had enough influence that they imbued the profile with credibility to some who accepted Jones' invites. The AP spoke to about 40 other people who connected with Jones between early March and early April of this year, many of whom said they routinely accept invitations from people they don't recognize.

"I'm probably the worst LinkedIn user in the history of LinkedIn," said Winfree, the former deputy director of President Donald Trump's domestic policy council, who confirmed connection with Jones on March 28.

Winfree, whose name came up last month in relation to one of the vacancies on the Federal Reserve Board of Governors, said he rarely logs on to LinkedIn and tends to just approve all the piled-up invites when he does.

"I literally accept every friend request that I get," he said.

know Jones did prompt a brief pause when he connected with her back in March.

"I remember hesitating," he said. "And then I thought, 'What's the harm?'"

Parell-Plesner noted that the potential harm can be subtle: Connecting to a profile like Jones' invites whoever is behind it to strike up a one-on-one conversation, and other users on the site can view the connection as a kind of endorsement.

"You lower your guard and you get others to lower their guard," he said.

The Jones profile was first flagged by Keir Giles, a Russia specialist with London's Chatham House think tank. Giles was recently caught up in an entirely separate espionage operation targeting critics of the Russian antivirus firm Kaspersky Lab. So when he received an invitation from Katie Jones on LinkedIn he was suspicious. She claimed to have been working for years as a "Russia and Eurasia fellow" at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, but Giles said that, if that were true,

Millennial Money: What couples gain by merging finances

By AMRITA JAYAKUMAR

NerdWallet

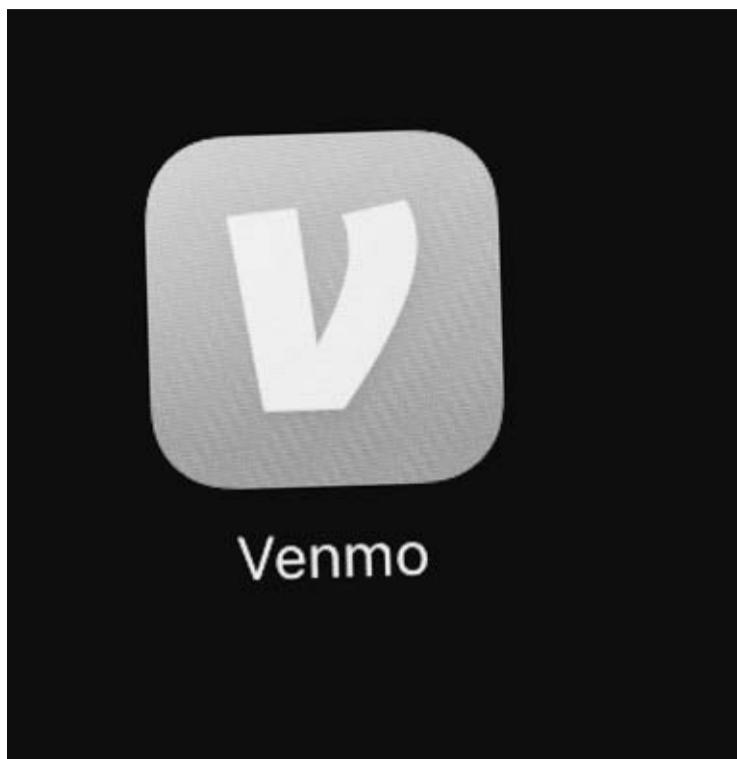
Associated Press

As a millennial couple, you and your partner might not be planning to blend finances even if you've been together for a while. Venmo is convenient, after all; the peer-to-peer money transfer app makes it easy to split costs like rent and utilities. Or perhaps you've each agreed to pay specific bills while keeping separate bank accounts.

In a Bank of America report released last year, 28% of couples between the ages of 23 and 37 surveyed said they kept their finances separate. That compared with 11% of couples ages 38-52 and 13% of couples 53-71. There's no "right" way to manage finances, but there are benefits to mixing love and money. Here are tips from millennial couples who make it work.

FIRST, SET EXPECTATIONS

When Juli Olson and her boyfriend, Travis McClelland, both 31, moved in together in Houston, their finances remained separate. Olson says she had a frugal upbringing, and mismatched expectations led to arguments. "He may think spending this much money on going out to eat



This March 20, 2018, file photo shows the Venmo app on an iPad in Baltimore.

is OK, but it didn't feel good for me," she says.

Eventually, the couple created a shared budget and goals. They compromised, spending on necessities as well as amusement. "He's introduced more fun into my life for sure," she says. When you're ready to talk with your partner, be honest about your attitudes toward money and agree on expectations. How much is reasonable to spend on things like eating out or gro-

ceries? Will you both save for a shared goal, like a vacation or car? Using the 50/30/20 budget gives you a good place to start. It divides spending into needs, wants and savings.

JOINT ACCOUNTS SAVE TIME, HASSLE

A joint account is not just for convenience. Suppose you have separate accounts and you don't know or remember your partner's login information. If an emergency arises — your

partner is hospitalized, for example — getting access to pay a bill takes effort, says Christine Centeno, 36, a certified financial planner at Simplicity Wealth Management near Richmond, Virginia.

Centeno, like many millennials, uses an online-only bank. She says it was easy to add her husband, Osmín, 37, to her account; the bank mailed her paperwork to sign. Opening a joint account doesn't imply you have to close yours or give up control, Centeno says. To prevent fights, agree on an amount you each can spend on wants, no questions asked.

50-50 IS NOT ALWAYS FAIR

Splitting things equally may not be fair when one partner makes a lot more than the other. Consider a proportional split instead, Centeno says.

Calculate your total household income before expenses, and what share of the total comes from each income. Use that as a guideline — you pay 60% of expenses while your partner pays 40%, for example. This also helps each person put money away for retirement or general savings, Centeno says. That's crucial if you split up or your

partner dies.

Ashley Patrick, 34, and her husband Tyler, 35, took less than two years to pay off more than \$47,000 in student loans, a tax bill and a car. The Charlotte, North Carolina, couple used a mix of budgeting, taking on extra work and selling things. Ashley, who blogs at BudgetsMadeEasy.com, uses her husband's bigger paycheck — which arrives a week before hers — to pay larger bills, and her own paycheck to cover smaller bills the following week.

"It's something after a couple years I figured out, after paying late fees and missing payments," she says.

SET UP REGULAR CHECK-INS

Olson and McClelland have a weekly budget check-in, using an app called Honeyfi. While paying off debt, the Patricks tracked their progress every Friday on a spreadsheet.

Millennials aren't shy when it comes to talking about money; 97% of couples ages 18-34 said they discuss finances at least once a month, compared with the average 88% for all age groups, according to a 2018 survey of more than 1,700 U.S. adults by TD Bank. □

Euro gains in global use, but dollar still dominates

By DAVID McHUGH

Associated Press

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP)

— The euro has gained ground as a global currency used for government reserves as U.S. economic sanctions deter some countries' use of the dollar, the European Central Bank said in a report Thursday.

The euro's share of measurable foreign reserves held by central banks and governments around the world rose 1.2 percentage points during 2018 to 20.7%, reversing a declining trend.

The dollar's share dropped slightly to 61.7%. That is down more than 7 percentage points from its peak level before the global financial crisis of 2007-2009. "It's primarily diversification away from the dollar,



International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Christine Lagarde, right, and European Central Bank (ECB) President Mario Draghi, left, speak prior to G20 Finance Ministers' and Central Bank Governors' Meeting Saturday, June 8, 2019, in Fukuoka, western Japan.

which benefits the euro," ECB executive board member Benoit Coeure said. The dollar, however, is still very much the dominant

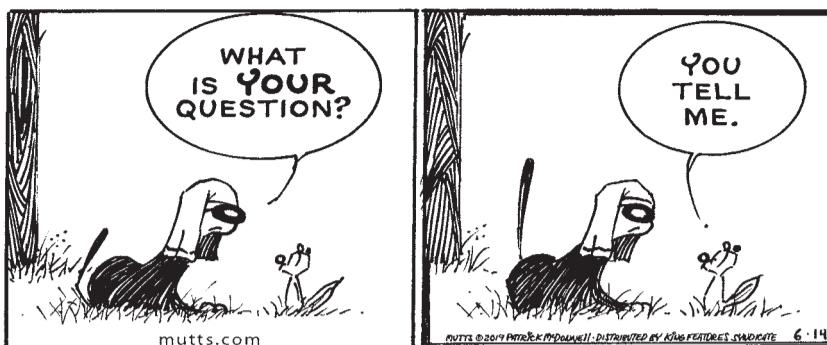
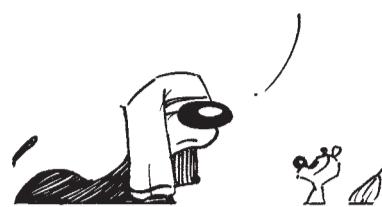
most recently toward the Chinese yuan. Factors affecting the dollar's use include countries selling dollars to support their own currency, and U.S. financial sanctions such as those against Russia, which has moved some holdings to other currencies to avoid U.S. restrictions.

Russia sold about \$100 billion worth of U.S. dollar-denominated assets in the wake of new rounds of U.S. sanctions, making the euro Moscow's main currency holding with 39% of reserves. The U.S. has imposed sanctions over a raft of issues, including the annexation of Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula, human rights abuses, support for the Syrian government, illicit trade with North Korea, election inter-

ference and cyberattacks. China also slightly reduced its dollar holdings in the form of U.S. Treasurys, by about \$60 billion, during a period of trade tension with the U.S., leaving its holdings at a still massive \$1.1 trillion. The Chinese currency, a newcomer in terms of being a global reserve currency, doubled its share to just under 2%. Other currencies used as reserves are the Japanese yen and the British pound, and to a lesser extent the Canadian dollar and the Australian dollar. Another reason dollar reserves declined is believed to be sales of dollar assets by emerging-market countries that are trying to keep their national currencies from falling against the dollar. □

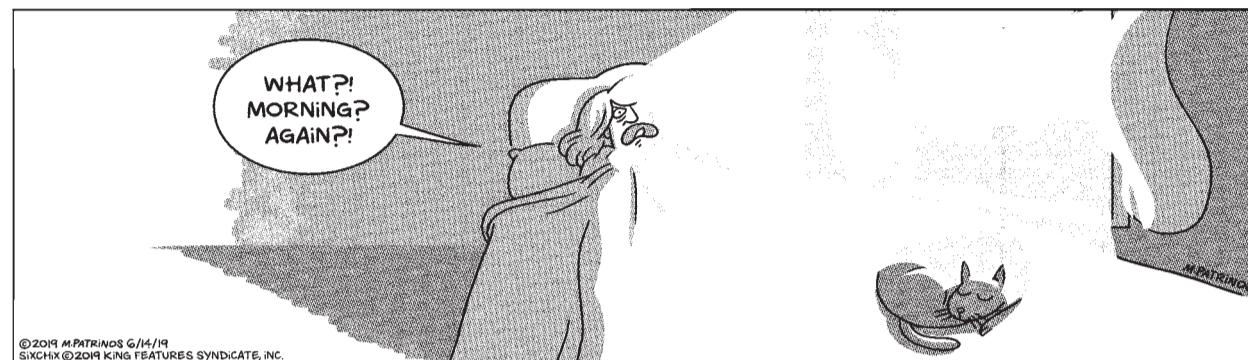
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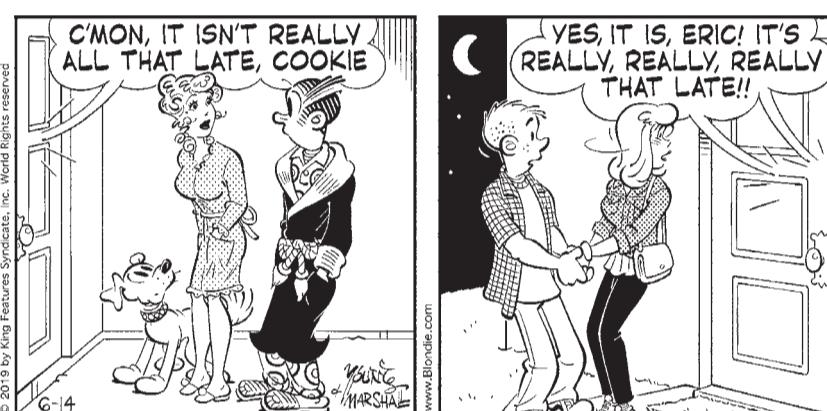
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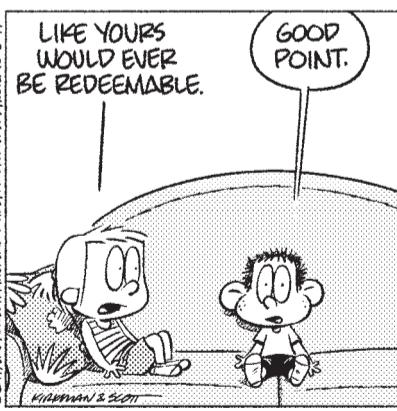


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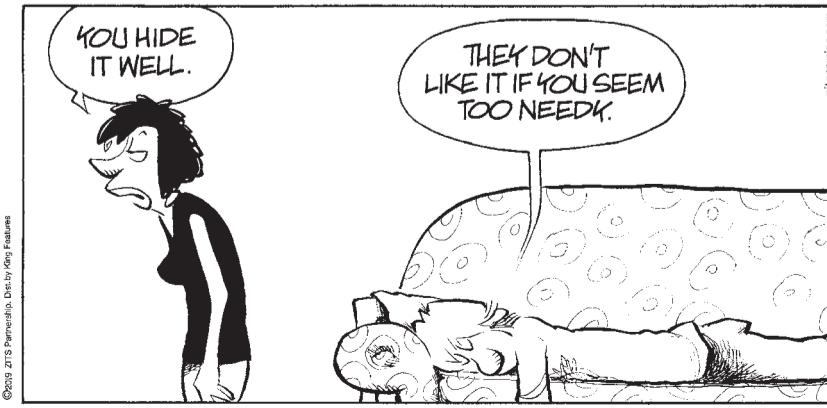


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SCOTT AND BORGMAN 6-14

Conceptis Sudoku

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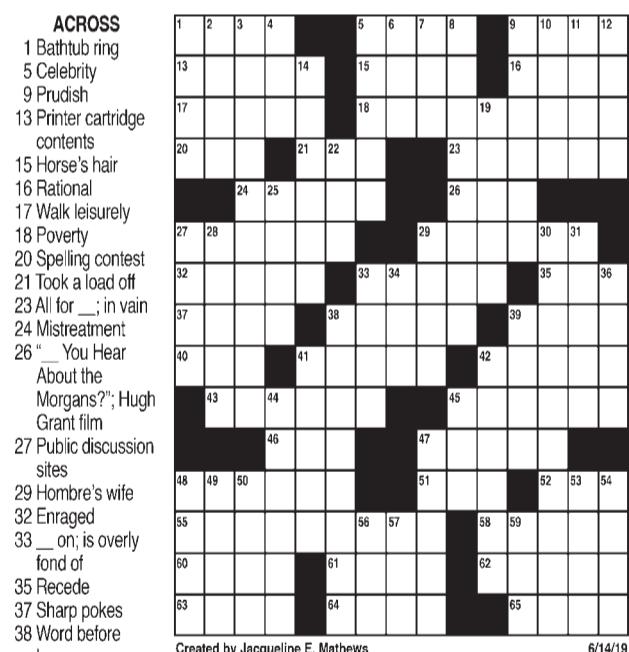
Difficulty Level ★★★★

6/14

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Yesterday's puzzle answer



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

6/14/19

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

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Sit. Study. Fetch a bachelor's degree in dog training



In this May 7, 2019 photo, student Jessie Show works with Luna, a Springer Spaniel whom she has trained to sniff out a fungus sample placed in a scent box at the State University of New York, Cobleskill, in Cobleskill, N.Y.

Associated Press

By MARY ESCH
Associated Press

COBLESKILL, N.Y. (AP) —

Luna the Springer Spaniel is learning to sniff out a troublesome golf course fungus in return for a tennis ball while helping her handler fetch a new breed of bachelor's degree.

The four-year program in "canine training and management" officially launches this fall at the State University of New York at Cobleskill amid a surge in demand for specially trained dogs to detect security threats and assist veterans in the wake of 9/11.

While several institutions hand out training certificates and at least one small private college, Bergen University of Canine Studies in Penngrove, California, awards a bachelor's in dog handling, the program at Cobleskill is more

ambitious in its scope.

"I do believe this is the first of its kind of this caliber of degree" at a major university, said Nick Hof, chairman of the Association of Professional Dog Trainers. Professor Stephen Mackenzie, who has trained military and police dogs for 40 years and authored professional manuals on the subject, said he developed Cobleskill's Bachelor of Technology degree partly in response to a heightened demand for dogs capable of sniffing out explosives in the aftermath of Sept. 11.

"The security and working dog industry really expanded" following the attacks, Mackenzie said. Law enforcement agencies also need dogs that can ferret out drugs or to assist in search and rescue. And they need skilled people to

raise and train those dogs and the handlers they'll work with.

The need for service dogs trained to assist those with post-traumatic stress disorder or reduced mobility has also expanded as veterans started returning from multiple tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan. There's also a growing demand for dogs trained to assist people with autism, seizure disorders, diabetes, impaired vision or hearing, and a range of other conditions, according to Assistance Dogs International, a coali-

tion of programs that train and place service dogs. Pet owners are also seeking trainers to teach Bailey basic manners, to stop Lucky from lunging on the leash and to generally ensure successful adoptions for shelter dogs. Hof, who does in-home dog training in Cincinnati, Ohio, said demand increases every year for professionals who charge up to \$150 an hour to cultivate companionable canines. □

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Centre for Diabetes
Tel. 524 8888
Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433
Quota Club Tel. 525 2672
General Info
Phone Directory Tel. 118

New gene tests for germs quickly reveal source of infections

By MARILYNN MARCHIONE
AP Chief Medical Writer

Brian Jetter was on life support, a healthy 40-year-old suddenly battling pneumonia and sepsis, and a slew of tests had failed to find the cause.

Mystery illnesses like this kill thousands of people each year when germs can't be identified fast enough to reveal the right treatment. Now genetic tests are helping to solve these cases.

One finally was used to search Jetter's blood for bits of non-human genetic material from viruses, fungi and the like. It detected unusual bacteria that probably got into the Connecticut man's lungs when he choked and accidentally inhaled bits of a burger weeks earlier.

With the right medicine, he recovered and went home to his 5-year-old son.

"I realized how fragile life is," Jetter said. "No matter how healthy you are, the smallest microbe can destroy you."

Doctors routinely use genetic tests to spot inherited diseases and guide cancer treatment. But using them to detect infectious diseases is so new that few doctors and even fewer patients know they're available. A study of one test is published in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine.

They are modernizing a field long overdue for an overhaul.

To identify bacteria, labs still rely on century-old techniques from Louis Pasteur — putting a few drops of blood or other sample in a lab dish and waiting days or sometimes weeks to see what germs grow. To test for a virus, a doctor usually has to guess what the patient is sick with. Testing for a



In this March 15, 2019 photo, Brian Jetter poses for a portrait in La Jolla, Calif.

fungus or some other things can take a long time.

Several companies and university labs now offer gene-based tests on blood or spinal fluid. Once fragments of foreign DNA or other genetic material are found, their code is analyzed, or sequenced, to identify bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites causing sepsis, meningitis, encephalitis and other deadly illnesses.

"The key advantage of sequencing is it can look for everything at once" rather than doing separate tests for each virus or other microbe that's suspected, said Dr. Charles Chiu, a microbiologist at the University of California, San Francisco.

He led the New England Journal study that tried a spinal fluid test on 204 children and adults with meningitis or encephalitis, dangerous illnesses that aren't always caused by an infection.

The gene test wasn't perfect. It missed some cases,

but also found others that standard tests missed.

In all, 58 infections were diagnosed. The gene test matched standard lab findings in 19 cases, it found 13 more than standard testing missed, and missed 26 that the standard tests eventually found.

Doctors say the gene-based tests could be a fast, non-invasive first step for se-

rious or unusual cases.

"For infectious disease, you need to know the answer today," because a patient's risk of dying goes up the longer the cause isn't found, said Dr. Asim Ahmed, medical director at Karius Inc.

The Redwood City, California, company sells a blood test developed by Stanford University scientists that

Associated Press

searches for 1,200 bacteria, fungi, viruses and parasites at once and gives a result within two days. The test showed high agreement with standard lab testing in a study in the journal *Nature Microbiology*.

"The biggest issue is the cost" — around \$2,000 for the Karius test, said Ali Torkamani, a San Diego scientist who directs a genetics conference that featured these tests in March. More competition may lower the price and lead to wider use, he said.

Karius has its own lab for its test. Other companies offer software and tools that hospitals can use to develop their own gene-based tests. One of them, Arc Bio, based in California and Massachusetts, offers virus testing from blood and gives an answer in less than two days.

IDbyDNA, based in San Francisco, uses a Utah lab that works with 3,000 U.S. hospitals. It gives an answer in about 48 hours once a sample arrives, said its chief medical officer, Dr. Robert Schlaberg, a University of Utah pathologist. □

Researchers: bitcoin's carbon footprint equal to Las Vegas

By FRANK JORDANS

Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — The virtual currency bitcoin is responsible for the same amount of carbon dioxide emissions as a city like Las Vegas or Hamburg and efforts to reduce its climate footprint should be considered, researchers said Thursday.

A study by researchers at the Technical University of Munich and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, examined how much power is consumed by computers used to generate bitcoins and process transactions. Writing in the journal Joule, researchers said they then combined the results with the carbon emissions from electricity production in the countries where the computers were located. They concluded that, in late 2018, the en-



In this Feb. 12, 2014 file photo Bitcoin buttons are displayed on a table at the Inside Bitcoins conference in Berlin.

Associated Press

tire bitcoin network was responsible for 22-22.9 million tons of CO₂ per year — similar to a large Western city or an entire developing country like Sri Lanka. Total global emissions of the greenhouse gas from the burning of fossil fuels were about 37 billion tons last year. "There are bigger factors contributing to climate change," said Christian Stoll, one of the study's authors. "However, the carbon footprint is big enough to make it worth discussing the possibility of regulating cryptocurrency mining in regions where power generation is especially carbon-intensive." □

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Jarmusch's zombies aren't as sexy as his vampires

By JOCELYN NOVECK

Associated Press

Six years ago, Jim Jarmusch made a movie about vampires. "Only Lovers Left Alive" was beautifully textured, ingeniously detailed and intoxicatingly moody. Plus it had the sexiest vampire couple you'd ever meet — Tilda Swinton and Tom Hiddleston, the latter of which hated humans and referred to them as "zombies."

Now Jarmusch has made an actual zombie movie, and sorry to say, they're a lot less sexy. In fact they're pretty standard-issue zombies, straight from any zombie movie you've seen before, not to mention the "Thriller" video.

This isn't to say "The Dead Don't Die", a hipster zombie comedy if ever there was one, has nothing going for it. Jarmusch's cast is a veritable embarrassment



This image released by Focus Features shows Bill Murray, from left, Chloë Sevigny and Adam Driver in a scene from "The Dead Don't Die."

Associated Press

of riches: Bill Murray, Adam Driver, Chloë Sevigny, Steve Buscemi, Tom Waits, Danny Glover, Selena Gomez, Rosie Perez and Iggy Pop, for starters.

It's also drily funny, and raises the director's deadpan aesthetic to a new level of, well, dead (or undead). "This strange film," Jarmusch has called it affectionately, and that it is — but couldn't it have been much more? It's a trifle compared to much of his other work, and with all that talent, you wish the aim had been a bit higher. Still, if you're a Jarmusch fan, you'll surely have a good time — especially when things get really zany and the fourth wall comes

tumbling down, in a way that perhaps only he can pull off.

Oh, by the way: Swinton's here, too. Not as a vampire, nor a zombie — but as a Scottish samurai warrior mortician. Yup, a Scottish samurai warrior mortician, and Swinton's probably the only actor on (or off) the planet who can pull THAT off.

The locale is a small town called Centerville, population 738 and "a real nice place," according to the roadside welcome sign. It's the kind of town where there's one gas station, one diner, one police station — and three cops. That would be the chief, Cliff (Bill Murray, at peak

Murray-ness), Ronnie (Driver, the true master of deadpan here), and Mindy (Sevigny, a nervous Nellie in nerdy glasses).

As we begin, Cliff and Ronnie are investigating a stolen chicken claim lodged by the town's resident racist farmer (Buscemi) against its resident hermit in the woods (Hermit Bob, aka Jarmusch stalwart Tom Waits).

But it soon becomes clear that something more serious is happening.

Wristwatches stop working. Daylight is refusing to cede to darkness. Cell phones fail. "This isn't going to end well, Cliff," says Ronnie, a line he will utter more than once. □

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JUNE 13-19

CHRIS HEMSWORTH | TESSA THOMPSON

MIB INTERNATIONAL WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH	MON-THU 5:45	8:20
FRI 5:45	8:20	10:55
SAT 3:10	5:45	8:20 10:55
SUN 3:10	5:45	8:20

CXC

PH	MON-THU 5:30	8:00
FRI 5:30	8:00	10:30
SAT 3:00	5:30	8:00 10:30
SUN 3:00	5:30	8:00

PBP

MON-THU 4:20	6:50	9:20
FRI 4:20	6:50	9:20 11:50
SAT 1:50	4:20	6:50 9:20 11:50
SUN 1:50	4:20	6:50 9:20

PBP FRI-SAT 10:45

TONY JAA | TIGER HU CHEN

TRIPLE THREAT

PBP	MON-THU 5:15	7:25	9:35
FRI 5:15	7:25	9:35	11:45
SAT 3:05	5:15	7:25	9:35 11:45
SUN 3:05	5:15	7:25	9:35

PATTON OSWALD | KEVIN HART

PETS 2 WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH	MON-THU 5:25	7:30
FRI 5:25	7:30	10:25
SAT 1:15	3:15	5:25 7:30 10:25
SUN 1:15	3:15	5:25 7:30

X-MEN DARK PHOENIX

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES (PG-13)

PH	MON-FRI 4:15	6:50	9:25
SAT-SUN 1:40	4:15	6:50	9:25

PBP

MON-THU 5:45	8:20	
FRI 5:45	8:20	10:55
SAT 3:10	5:45	8:20 10:55
SUN 3:10	5:45	8:20

KEANU REEVES | HALLE BERRY

CHAPTER JOHN WICK 3 PARABELLUM

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES (R)

PH	MON-THU 5:35	8:30
FRI 5:35	8:30	11:00
SAT 2:40	5:35	8:30 11:00
SUN 2:40	5:35	8:30

OCTAVIA SPENCER | DIANA SILVERS

MA

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES (R)

PBP	MON-THU & SUN 7:15	9:35
FRI-SAT 7:15	9:35	11:55

VERA FARMIGA | MILLIE BOBBY BROWN

GODZILLA KING OF THE MONSTERS

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES (PG-13)

PH	MON-SUN 3:40	6:25
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TARON EGERTON | JAMIE BELL

ROCKETMAN

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES (R)

PH	MON-FRI 9:10
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Juanes named Latin Recording Academy Person of the Year

By SIGAL RATNER-ARIAS

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Colombian rocker-activist Juanes has been named the 2019 Latin Recording Academy Person of the Year.

The academy will honor the 22-time Latin Grammy Award winner and two-time Grammy Award winner on Nov. 13 at the MGM Grand Convention Center in Las Vegas, on the eve of the Latin Grammys.

Juanes made his debut in 2000 with "Fijate Bien." Since then, he has sold over 20 million records. He recently released a single "Querer Mejor" (kay-rer may-hore), featuring Ales-



In this May 5, 2018 file photo, Juanes performs at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival in New Orleans.

Associated Press

sia Cara. It will be included in his next album. Mexican rock band Maná won the same award last year. □

Past honorees include Shakira, Plácido Domingo, Gloria Estefan, Ricky Martin, Alejandro Sanz and Julio Iglesias. □

Amy Poehler, Issa Rae recognized for their entrepreneurship

By LINDSEY BAHR
Associated Press

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)

— In a night of commanding words from some of the most accomplished women in entertainment at the annual Women in Film Gala Wednesday night in Beverly Hills, from the likes of Issa Rae, Viola Davis and producer Cathy Schulman, Amy Poehler put her own unconventional spin on the “empowerment speech.” Poehler, who was accepting the final honor of the evening, the Entrepreneur in Entertainment Award, simply read off a list of names: “A League of Their Own,” Patti Smith, “Fleabag,” “The Virgin Suicides,” Judge Judy, U.S. Women’s Soccer, “American Psycho,” “Russian Doll,” Dolly Parton. She continued listing off female creators and female-created shows and films for two and a half minutes.

“Thank you, thank you,” Poehler said. “More, more, more.”

It was simple, brief, and got the point across to the ballroom full of women working in the industry. She followed a riotously funny speech from “Insecure” creator Rae, who decided to take



Amy Poehler accepts the entrepreneur in entertainment award at the Women in Film Annual Gala on Wednesday, June 12, 2019, at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

inspiration from her hip-hop idols and buck the social convention of women being humble. She said she was just going to say the opposite of, “What I would normally say.”

“You future hoes need to bow down,” Rae said as the inaugural recipient of the Emerging Entrepreneur Award. “Entrepreneur means I did that s--- by my-

self.” Producer Cathy Schulman, and former Women in Film board president, who was being recognized for her advocacy in entertainment, took a vastly different approach with a vulnerable and open story about the personal and financial trials she’s had to endure while trying to “make it.” Although she won an Os-

car for producing the film “Crash,” she said she never made a dollar from the film, which earned almost \$100 million at the box office, and even went into credit card debt trying to make sure the production had what was needed. She’s produced 30-something films and raised a daughter too, but she said she has

from pre-school through

graduation only picked her up from school four times.

“I’ve paid a deep price for my advocacy,” Schulman said.

She said there’s still, “A long way to go” and she hopes, for one, that the words “diversity” and “inclusion” are decoupled.

“Diversity is a counting mechanism,” she said. “Inclusion is not something you can count, advertise or market. Inclusion is what happens when diverse people are actually present in equal numbers in decision making positions.”

Davis, who is working with Schulman on a project called “The Woman King,” which she described as “‘Braveheart’ only with all black women and no Scottish brogues,” said that, “In a world that has a bad habit of erasing us girls... we need champions like Cathy.”

Women in Film, the advocacy organization putting on the event with the help of sponsor Max Mara, announced a new initiative at the event called Entrepreneurial Pathways which is intended to help knock down the roadblocks to capital for female filmmakers and creators. □

Prince Royce to headline MLS All-Star concert

By MESFIN FEKADU
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Latin singer Prince Royce says he’s looking forward to headlining the 2019 Major League Soccer All-Star Concert because he loves singing live. But another motive? To gain some new fans.

The Dominican singer will perform at the free event on July 27 in Orlando, Florida, at Wall Street Plaza, where Grammy-nominated DJ-producer A-Trak will kick off the concert.

“I think for me it’s a great way to continue to gain a bigger audience. It’s a whole different type of crowd,” said Royce, who said he’s become a bigger soccer fan in the last two years. “I know that there’s going to be some people



In this Monday, Feb. 27, 2017, file photo, singer Prince Royce poses for a portrait in New York.

Associated Press

that might just be finding out about my music that

day ... (but) I hope that they have a great experience.”

Royce said though he enjoys soccer, he didn’t play the sport growing up: “In New York, as a Dominican, the only two sports you really hear about is baseball and basketball. I grew up in the projects of New York, which we had a basketball court in the back. And then growing up I saw a lot of baseball, you know, there are so many Dominican baseball players.”

Royce released his self-titled debut album in 2010, topped the Latin charts with songs like “Corazon Sin Cara,” “Las Cosas Pequeñas” and “Darte un Beso,” and earned 13 Latin Grammy nominations.

Last week he released the song “Curame” featuring Manuel Turizo, and said he’s finishing up a new album, “Alter Ego.”

“I’m doing a very different approach with this album. It’s really a concept album,” Royce said, adding that he’s “not 100 percent sure when it’s going to come out.”

“It’s a very ambitious album,” he added. “It’s so many different rhythms, so many different vibes.”

Royce turned 30 last month and went skydiving to celebrate. He married “Shadowhunters” actress Emeraude Toubia last year. He said as he reflects on his career so far, he’s proud of what he’s achieved.

“I feel very blessed that I’m able to take care of my family and live off of this dream,” he said. “I’m at a place where I feel really good about myself. I’m just motivated to do more and to keep growing.” □

Oscar-nominated 'Midnight Cowboy' actress Sylvia Miles dies

By ANDREW DALTON

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Sylvia Miles, an actress and Manhattan socialite whose brief, scene-stealing appearances in the films "Midnight Cowboy" and "Farewell, My Lovely" earned her two Academy Award nominations, died Wednesday. Miles died in an ambulance in New York on the way to a hospital after complaining to a home health care worker that she wasn't feeling well, her friend, fashion-industry publicist Mauricio Padilha, told The Associated Press. The cause is not yet clear.

Accounts of Miles' age vary widely. Padilha and other sources say she was 94. Past reporting from the AP puts her age at 86.

Miles was a veteran actress but not a widely known name when she appeared onscreen for about six minutes in 1969's "Midnight Cowboy." In her sole scene, she plays a brassy Manhattan woman who invites an aspiring male prostitute from Texas, played by Jon Voight, up to her penthouse for sex, but ends up taking money from him instead.

"You were going to ask me for money?" Miles' char-



In this Sunday, Jan. 7, 2007, file photo, Sylvia Miles arrives for the 2006 New York Film Critic's Circle Awards at the Supper Club in New York.

acter, Cass, says as she breaks into increasingly angry mock-tears. "Who the hell do you think you're dealing with? ... In case you didn't happen to notice it, you big Texas longhorn bull, I'm one hell of a gorgeous chick!"

In 1975's "Farewell, My Lovely," which starred Robert Mitchum as detective

Philip Marlowe, her screen time is only slightly longer as a down-on-her-luck entertainer who swaps information for a bottle of booze. The fleetingly brief roles both got her Oscar nominations. Her appearances in real life were just as memorable for those who came across her.

Associated Press

"She was pretty much the same person off screen as she was on screen," Padilha said. "She was quite a character."

Miles was born in, and became a lifelong resident of, Manhattan, where she was married and divorced three times and had no children.

She studied at The Actors

Studio, making her name in a series of Off-Broadway roles starting in the 1950s, and moving on to movies in the 1960s.

Her film credits included 1972's Andy Warhol-produced "Heat," 1987's "Wall Street" and its 2010 sequel "Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps," and 1988's "Crossing Delancey."

Her TV roles included guest appearances on "Miami Vice," "One Life to Live" and "Sex in the City."

Miles was a competitive chess player, according to the New York Times, which twice featured her in its coverage of the game.

And she went, it seems, to nearly every party in New York for a time, becoming as beloved for her outgoing personality and flamboyant fashion sense than as for her acting.

"She shows up at premieres, screenings, receptions, teas and charity cocktail parties," said a 1976 article in People magazine titled, "What would a Manhattan party be without the ubiquitous Sylvia Miles?"

"I get invited because I'm fun," Miles told People at the time. "I have a good sense of humor. I look good. I'm not bad to have at a party." □

John Legend on abortion law boycotts: 'Money talks'

By AMANDA LEE MYERS

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — John Legend says Hollywood should consider boycotting Georgia, Louisiana, Alabama and other states that pass restrictive abortion laws.

Legend admits he's not sure if a boycott would be successful, but says "it's a conversation that needs to be had."

"Particularly when these studios are hiring people and bringing people to the state and saying, 'Come work with us here in this state,' but if you get pregnant there you're going to be treated like a second-class citizen," he said. "That's a tough conversation to have with your staff. And so I think hopefully the



In this March 14, 2019, file photo, John Legend performs "Preach" at the iHeartRadio Music Awards at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles.

pressure that the studios are putting on will help Georgia and other states see the error of their ways."

He added: "I don't know that it will definitely work,

but I know that money talks."

Louisiana, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi and Ohio have enacted bills barring abortion once there's a de-

tectable fetal heartbeat, as early as the sixth week of pregnancy. Missouri's governor signed a bill last month approving an eight-week ban on abortion, with exceptions only for medical emergencies. Alabama has gone even further, outlawing virtually all abortions, even in cases of rape or incest. None of the bans have taken effect, and all are expected to face legal challenges.

Netflix and other major Hollywood studios have said they're reevaluating filming in Georgia if its abortion law goes into effect.

Legend, who has two children with wife and model Chrissy Teigen, said the idea that any state would get involved in making a reproductive decision for a

woman "is just unconscionable to me. "There's no way we can have equality in any other realm if women don't have the ability to make these kinds of decisions on their own without the state getting involved," Legend said in an interview Monday while promoting a Pampers campaign to install more baby-changing tables in men's restrooms.

"It's a grassroots thing where people let their politicians know what they think about these laws and what they think about the idea of women having freedom to make decisions about their bodies and when they want to have kids," he said. "The bottom line is we need to respect women and let women make their own decisions." □

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